

AN ACT

relating to the methods of providing notice of an associate judge's report in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 201.011(c) and (d), Family Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) Notice may be given to the parties:

(1) in open court, by an oral statement or a copy of the associate judge's written report, including any proposed order; ~~[or]~~

(2) by certified mail, return receipt requested; or

(3) by facsimile transmission.

(d) The associate judge shall certify the date of mailing of notice by certified mail or the date of the facsimile transmission. There is a rebuttable presumption that notice is received on the date stated on:

(1) the signed return receipt, if notice was provided by certified mail; or

(2) the confirmation page produced by the facsimile machine, if notice was provided by facsimile transmission ~~[Notice is considered given on the third day after the date of mailing].~~

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 821 was passed by the House on March 28, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 821 was passed by the Senate on May 20, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____
Date

Governor