

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 887

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the award of attorney's fees and expenses in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship.

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

SECTION 1. Section 106.002, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 106.002. ATTORNEY'S FEES AND EXPENSES. (a) In a suit under this title, the court may render judgment for ~~[order]~~ reasonable attorney's fees and expenses ~~[as costs]~~ and order the judgment and postjudgment interest ~~[fees]~~ to be paid directly to an attorney.

(b) A judgment for ~~[An award of]~~ attorney's fees and expenses may be enforced in the attorney's name by any means available for the enforcement of a judgment for debt.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003, and applies to a suit affecting the parent-child relationship pending in a trial court on that date or filed on or after that date.