

By: Paxton

H.B. No. 1518

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to circumstances under which court reporting firms,  
3 shorthand reporting firms, and affiliate offices are considered to  
4 provide services in this state.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 52.001, Government Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 52.001. DEFINITIONS. (a) In this chapter:

9 (1) "Board" means the Court Reporters Certification  
10 Board.

11 (2) "Certification" means a certification issued by  
12 the state supreme court on the board's recommendation.

13 (2-a) "Director" means the administrative director of  
14 the board's employees.

15 (3) "Official court reporter" means the shorthand  
16 reporter appointed by a judge as the official court reporter.

17 (4) "Shorthand reporter" and "court reporter" mean a  
18 person who engages in shorthand reporting.

19 (5) "Shorthand reporting" and "court reporting" mean  
20 the practice of shorthand reporting for use in litigation in the  
21 courts of this state by making a verbatim record of an oral court  
22 proceeding, deposition, or proceeding before a grand jury, referee,  
23 or court commissioner using written symbols in shorthand, machine  
24 shorthand, or oral stenography.

1           (6) "Shorthand reporting firm," "court reporting  
2 firm," and "affiliate office" mean an entity wholly or partly in the  
3 business of providing court reporting or other related services in  
4 this state.

5           (7) "Registration" means a registration issued by the  
6 board.

7           (b) For purposes of Subsection (a)(6), a court reporting  
8 firm, shorthand reporting firm, or affiliate office is considered  
9 to be providing court reporting or other related services in this  
10 state if:

11           (1) any act that constitutes a court reporting service  
12 or shorthand reporting service occurs wholly or partly in this  
13 state;

14           (2) the firm or office recruits a resident of this  
15 state through an intermediary located inside or outside of this  
16 state to provide court reporting services, shorthand reporting  
17 services, or other related services in this state; or

18           (3) the firm or office contracts with a resident of  
19 this state by mail or otherwise and either party is to perform court  
20 reporting services, shorthand reporting services, or other related  
21 services wholly or partly in this state.

22           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.