

By: Delisi

H.B. No. 1972

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requirements applicable to an attorney ad litem
representing a child in a child abuse proceeding.

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

SECTION 1. Section 107.004(e), Family Code, is amended to
read as follows:

(e) An attorney ad litem appointed for a child in a
proceeding under Chapter 262 or 263 is not required to comply with
Subsection (d) before a hearing if the court finds at that hearing
that the attorney ad litem has shown good cause why the attorney ad
litem's compliance with that subsection is not feasible or in the
best interest of the child. Additionally, a court may, on a showing
of good cause, authorize an attorney ad litem to comply with
Subsection (d) by conferring with the child or other individual, as
appropriate, by telephone or video conference.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
Act takes effect September 1, 2007.