

1-1 By: Uresti S.B. No. 449
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 5, 2007; February 21, 2007,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence;
1-4 April 16, 2007, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; April 16, 2007,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 449 By: Hinojosa

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the requirement in certain suits affecting the
1-11 parent-child relationship that the parties attend parenting
1-12 classes.

1-13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-14 SECTION 1. Section 105.009, Family Code, is amended by
1-15 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as
1-16 follows:

1-17 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (a-1), in [In] a suit
1-18 affecting the parent-child relationship, including an action to
1-19 modify an order in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship
1-20 providing for possession of or access to a child, the court may
1-21 order the parties to the suit to attend a parent education and
1-22 family stabilization course if the court determines that the order
1-23 is in the best interest of the child. This section does not apply to
1-24 a suit filed by a governmental entity.

1-25 (a-1) In a suit affecting the parent-child relationship
1-26 that is included in or accompanied by a suit for dissolution of a
1-27 marriage, the court shall order the parties to the suit to attend a
1-28 parent education and family stabilization course unless the court
1-29 finds that a party does not have access to a course. The failure of
1-30 a party to attend a course ordered under this subsection is not
1-31 grounds for the court to delay rendering a final order in the suit
1-32 for dissolution of a marriage. This subsection does not apply to a
1-33 suit for dissolution of a marriage in which a default judgment is
1-34 rendered.

1-35 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
1-36 to a suit affecting the parent-child relationship filed on or after
1-37 the effective date of this Act. A suit affecting the parent-child
1-38 relationship filed before the effective date of this Act is
1-39 governed by the law in effect on the date the suit was filed, and the
1-40 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1-41 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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