

By: Raymond

H.B. No. 317

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the appointment of a parenting coordinator in a suit  
3 affecting the parent-child relationship.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 153.609(d), Family Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (d) If due to hardship the parties are unable to pay the fees  
8 of a parenting coordinator, and a domestic relations office or a  
9 comparable county agency [~~public employee~~] is not available under  
10 Subsection (c), the court, if feasible, may appoint a person who  
11 meets the minimum qualifications prescribed by Section 153.610,  
12 including an employee of the court, to act as a parenting  
13 coordinator on a volunteer basis and without compensation.

14 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to a  
15 suit affecting the parent-child relationship that is pending in a  
16 trial court on the effective date of this Act or that is filed on or  
17 after the effective date of this Act.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.