

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 974

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring the court to confer with a child before a protective order hearing.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 84, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 84.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 84.006. CONFERRING WITH CHILD. If a party in a proceeding under this title files a motion requesting the court to confer with a child who is a member of the family or household for which protection is sought or on whose behalf the application for a protective order is made, the court shall confer with the child in chambers before the hearing on the application for a protective order.

SECTION 2. Section 84.006, Family Code, as added by this Act, applies to a hearing on an application for a protective order held on or after the effective date of this Act, regardless of the date the application is filed.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.