

1-1 By: Shapiro, Carona S.B. No. 1062  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 23, 2009; March 13, 2009,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence;  
1-4 April 20, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; April 20, 2009,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1062 By: Hinojosa

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

1-10 relating to creating an online resource center for individuals  
1-11 handling child abuse and neglect cases.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Chapter 264, Family Code, is amended by adding  
1-14 Subchapter K to read as follows:

1-15 SUBCHAPTER K. ONLINE RESOURCE CENTER

1-16 Sec. 264.821. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

1-17 (1) "Communications tool" means an online method for  
1-18 peer-to-peer communication among individuals who handle child  
1-19 abuse and neglect cases.

1-20 (2) "Office" means the Office of Court Administration  
1-21 of the Texas Judicial System.

1-22 (3) "Online resource center" means a single  
1-23 interactive Internet website that provides, to individuals who  
1-24 handle child abuse and neglect cases, timely informational  
1-25 materials pertinent to child abuse and neglect cases in this state,  
1-26 which may include summaries of Texas cases and statutes relating to  
1-27 child abuse and neglect, sample briefs and other legal forms,  
1-28 articles and papers, manuals with information on Texas legal  
1-29 practice and practice tips, a conference calendar, and  
1-30 communications tools.

1-31 Sec. 264.822. CONTRACT. (a) The office shall contract  
1-32 with an entity to provide an online resource center if:

1-33 (1) the office is specifically appropriated money in  
1-34 an amount adequate to provide the online resource center; and

1-35 (2) there is a qualified entity with whom the office is  
1-36 able to contract.

1-37 (b) The online resource center must:

1-38 (1) provide a means of searching for informational  
1-39 materials by subject; and

1-40 (2) include a:

1-41 (A) communications tool for judges; and

1-42 (B) communications tool for attorneys.

1-43 (c) The contract under this section must prohibit the entity  
1-44 with which the office contracts from spending more than 12 percent  
1-45 of the contract price on the entity's indirect or administrative  
1-46 overhead expenses.

1-47 (d) If the office does not enter into a contract in  
1-48 accordance with this subchapter, the office may not receive the  
1-49 funds appropriated to the office in connection with this  
1-50 subchapter.

1-51 Sec. 264.823. ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTRACT. The entity with  
1-52 which the office contracts under this subchapter must:

1-53 (1) have at least three years of experience in  
1-54 operating an online resource center specifically designed for  
1-55 judges and attorneys handling child abuse and neglect cases in this  
1-56 state;

1-57 (2) have at least one year of experience in providing a  
1-58 communications tool; and

1-59 (3) employ or contract with at least one attorney who  
1-60 is licensed to practice law in this state and who specializes in  
1-61 child abuse and neglect cases to compile the materials for and  
1-62 oversee the operation of the online resource center.

1-63 Sec. 264.824. FUNDING. (a) The entity with which the

2-1 office contracts under this subchapter may obtain funding from  
2-2 private foundations and individuals, from state and federal grants,  
2-3 and from any other source to operate the online resource center.

2-4 (b) The entity must maintain and provide to the office  
2-5 records that adequately identify:

2-6 (1) each person who provided funds to the entity to  
2-7 operate the online resource center; and

2-8 (2) the amount of funds the person provided.

2-9 Sec. 264.825. CONFIDENTIALITY. All communications  
2-10 conducted through a communications tool provided in connection with  
2-11 the online resource center implemented under this subchapter are  
2-12 privileged and confidential.

2-13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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