

By: Watson, Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1440

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to orders and judgments rendered by associate judges in child support and child protection cases.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 201.1041, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) If a request for a de novo hearing before the referring court is not timely filed or the right to a de novo hearing before the referring court is waived, the proposed order or judgment of the associate judge, other than a proposed order or judgment providing for enforcement by contempt or the immediate incarceration of a party, shall become the order or judgment of the referring court by operation of law without the signature of the judge of the referring court or ratification by the referring court.

SECTION 2. Subsection (a), Section 201.2041, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) If a request for a de novo hearing before the referring court is not timely filed or the right to a de novo hearing before the referring court is waived, the proposed order or judgment of the associate judge becomes the order or judgment of the referring court by operation of law without the signature of the judge of the referring court or ratification by the referring court.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.