

By: Raymond

H.B. No. 149

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the appointment of a parenting coordinator or parenting  
3 facilitator in a suit 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. Section 153.6091, Family Code, is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 Sec. 153.6091. COMPENSATION OF PARENTING FACILITATOR.  
17 Section 153.609 applies to [~~the compensation of~~] a parenting  
18 facilitator in the same manner as provided for [~~the compensation~~  
19 ~~of~~] a parenting coordinator, except that a person appointed in  
20 accordance with Section 153.609(d) to act as a parenting  
21 facilitator must meet the minimum qualifications prescribed by  
22 Section 153.6101.

23 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies to a  
24 suit affecting the parent-child relationship that is pending in a

1 trial court on the effective date of this Act or that is filed on or  
2 after the effective date of this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.