

1-1 By: Raymond (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 149
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House March 31, 2011;
1-3 April 13, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Jurisprudence; May 21, 2011, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 21, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the appointment of a parenting coordinator or parenting
1-9 facilitator in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 153.609(d), Family Code, is amended to
1-12 read as follows:

1-13 (d) If due to hardship the parties are unable to pay the fees
1-14 of a parenting coordinator, and a domestic relations office or a
1-15 comparable county agency [public employee] is not available under
1-16 Subsection (c), the court, if feasible, may appoint a person who
1-17 meets the minimum qualifications prescribed by Section 153.610,
1-18 including an employee of the court, to act as a parenting
1-19 coordinator on a volunteer basis and without compensation.

1-20 SECTION 2. Section 153.6091, Family Code, is amended to
1-21 read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 153.6091. COMPENSATION OF PARENTING FACILITATOR.
1-23 Section 153.609 applies to [~~the compensation of~~] a parenting
1-24 facilitator in the same manner as provided for [~~the compensation~~
1-25 ~~of~~] a parenting coordinator, except that a person appointed in
1-26 accordance with Section 153.609(d) to act as a parenting
1-27 facilitator must meet the minimum qualifications prescribed by
1-28 Section 153.6101.

1-29 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies to a
1-30 suit affecting the parent-child relationship that is pending in a
1-31 trial court on the effective date of this Act or that is filed on or
1-32 after the effective date of this Act.

1-33 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-34 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-35 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-36 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-37 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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