

By: Hernandez Luna

H.B. No. 3032

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the prompt resolution of appeals in civil actions.

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

SECTION 1. Section 22.004, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (i), (j), and (k) to read as follows:

(i) The supreme court shall adopt rules to promote the prompt, efficient, and cost-effective resolution of an appeal in a civil action. The rules shall apply to all courts of appeals and the supreme court. The rules shall address the need for the full and final disposition of:

(1) an appeal not later than one year after the date a party perfects the appeal; and

(2) an expedited and interlocutory appeal not later than three months after the date a party perfects the appeal.

(j) The supreme court shall adopt rules that establish a procedure to uphold, without opinion, a lower court's judgment or order that is the subject of an appeal that the appellate court has failed to dispose of within the applicable period described by Subsection (i).

(k) The supreme court shall adopt rules that require a court of appeals to publish or post a list of cases that have been pending with the court for six months or more on the websites of the court of appeals and the supreme court and on the front entrance of the courthouse where the court conducts proceedings. The list must

1 include the:

2 (1) case name;

3 (2) case number;

4 (3) description of the case as it appears on the  
5 docketing statement;

6 (4) date the party perfected the appeal; and

7 (5) number of calendar days the case has been pending.

8 SECTION 2. Not later than May 1, 2014, the Texas Supreme  
9 Court shall adopt the rules necessary to implement Sections  
10 22.004(i), (j), and (k), Government Code, as added by this Act.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.