

By: Bohac

H.B. No. 3470

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to a disclosure by an attorney before accepting  
3 representation of a client in a suit for the dissolution of  
4 marriage.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 6, Family Code, is amended  
7 by adding Section 6.412 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 6.412. DISCLOSURE REQUIRED. (a) An attorney may not  
9 agree to represent a client in a suit for dissolution of a marriage  
10 unless:

11 (1) the attorney provides the disclosure described by  
12 Subsection (b) to the client; and

13 (2) the client acknowledges in writing that the client  
14 has received and understands the disclosure.

15 (b) The attorney general shall adopt by rule the disclosure  
16 required under this section. The disclosure must include:

17 (1) information about arbitration, mediation,  
18 collaborative law, and alternatives to retaining an attorney for  
19 the dissolution of a marriage; and

20 (2) any other information the attorney general  
21 requires.

22 SECTION 2. (a) The attorney general shall adopt the form  
23 required by Section 6.412, Family Code, as added by this Act, not  
24 later than January 1, 2014.

1           (b) Section 6.412, Family Code, as added by this Act,  
2 applies to the representation of a client that begins on or after  
3 March 1, 2014.

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