

By: West

S.B. No. 534

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to requiring permanency planning meetings for certain
3 children in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and
4 Protective Services.

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

6 SECTION 1. The heading to Chapter 263, Family Code, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 CHAPTER 263. REVIEW OF PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN UNDER CARE OF
9 DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE [~~AND REGULATORY~~] SERVICES

10 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 263, Family Code, is
11 amended by adding Section 263.009 to read as follows:

12 Sec. 263.009. PERMANENCY PLANNING MEETINGS. (a) Except as
13 provided by Subsection (b), the department shall hold a permanency
14 planning meeting for each child for whom the department is
15 appointed temporary managing conservator:

16 (1) not later than the 45th day after the date the
17 department is named temporary managing conservator of the child;

18 (2) not later than five months after the date the
19 department is named temporary managing conservator of the child;

20 and

21 (3) not later than nine months after the date the
22 department is named temporary managing conservator of the child.

23 (b) The department is not required to hold a permanency
24 planning meeting for a child if the child has received a permanent

1 placement or the department has selected a permanent placement for
2 the child.

3 (c) The department shall give notice of each permanency
4 planning meeting to:

5 (1) the child, if the child is at least seven years of
6 age;

7 (2) the child's attorney ad litem;

8 (3) the child's guardian ad litem;

9 (4) any court-appointed volunteer advocate for the
10 child;

11 (5) the child's substitute care provider and any
12 child-placing agency involved with the child;

13 (6) each of the child's parents and the parents'
14 attorney, unless:

15 (A) the parent cannot be located;

16 (B) the parent has executed an affidavit of
17 relinquishment of parental rights; or

18 (C) the parent's parental rights have been
19 terminated; and

20 (7) any other person the department determines should
21 attend the permanency planning meeting.

22 (d) The department shall give the notice required by
23 Subsection (c) by electronic mail if possible.

24 SECTION 3. Section 263.009, Family Code, as added by this
25 Act, applies only to a child placed in the temporary managing
26 conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services
27 on or after the effective date of this Act.

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