

By: Phelan

H.B. No. 884

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the abolishment of the Orange County child support office and to the divorce and contempt fees paid in Orange County.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 152.1872(f) and (g), Human Resources Code, are transferred to Section 152.1873, Human Resources Code, redesignated as Subsections (f) and (g) of that section, and amended to read as follows:

(f) Fees collected under this section [~~and Section 152.1873~~] shall be deposited in a separate fund known as the "divorce and contempt fees fund [~~Child Support Fund~~]" by the county treasurer. A record shall be kept of all fees collected and expended. The divorce and contempt fees [~~child support~~] fund is subject to regular audit by the county auditor or other authorized person. An annual report of receipts and expenditures in the account shall be made to the commissioners court by the auditor.

(g) The Orange County Juvenile Board [~~juvenile board~~] shall administer the fees collected under this section [~~and Section 152.1873~~] to meet the expenses of the juvenile board [~~office~~], including postage, equipment, stationery, office supplies, subpoenas, salaries, and other expenses authorized by the board. The fund shall be supplemented from the general fund or other available funds of the county as necessary.

SECTION 2. The heading to Section 152.1873, Human Resources

1 Code, is amended to read as follows:

2           Sec. 152.1873. DIVORCE [~~ADOPTION~~] AND CONTEMPT FEES IN  
3 ORANGE COUNTY.

4           SECTION 3. Sections 152.1873(a) and (d), Human Resources  
5 Code, are amended to read as follows:

6           (a) Each person who files a divorce case in Orange County  
7 shall pay to the clerk of the district court a filing fee of not less  
8 than \$5. The fee is taxed, collected, and paid as other costs and is  
9 used to assist in maintaining the Orange County Juvenile Board as  
10 provided by Subsection (g) [~~child support office~~].

11           (d) A receipt of all disbursements of money paid to [~~into~~]  
12 the Orange County Juvenile Board [~~child support office~~] in a matter  
13 involving contempt shall be kept on file.

14           SECTION 4. The following are repealed:

15           (1) the heading to Section 152.1872, Human Resources  
16 Code; and

17           (2) Sections 152.1872(a), (b), (c), (d), and (e),  
18 Human Resources Code.

19           SECTION 5. On the effective date of this Act:

20           (1) the Orange County child support office is  
21 abolished;

22           (2) the obligations, rights, records, equipment, and  
23 personnel of the former office are transferred to the Orange County  
24 Juvenile Board; and

25           (3) any money remaining in the Orange County child  
26 support fund shall be transferred to the divorce and contempt fees  
27 fund for the Orange County Juvenile Board.

1 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.