

By: Leach

H.B. No. 3730

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the creation of a committee to study adoption practices
3 in this state.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 162, Family Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 162.603 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 162.603. ADOPTION PRACTICES COMMITTEE. (a) The
8 adoption practices committee is created to study and make
9 recommendations for improving adoption practices in this state.

10 (b) The committee consists of nine members appointed by the
11 executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission,
12 in consultation with the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the
13 house of representatives, as follows:

14 (1) a member of the house of representatives;

15 (2) a member of the senate;

16 (3) a manager of the Department of Family and
17 Protective Services with experience in adoption related issues;

18 (4) a representative of a family violence advocacy
19 center;

20 (5) a member who is an adoption lawyer;

21 (6) an Administrator from a licensed child placing
22 agency with experience in both state contract and private adoption;

23 (7) a member who is a psychiatrist; and

24 (8) three members who are adoptive parents.

1 (c) Not later than June 1, 2018, the adoption practices
2 committee shall prepare and submit to the office of the governor and
3 the legislature a written report regarding the committee's
4 findings and recommendations.

5 (d) This section expires September 1, 2018.

6 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2016, the executive
7 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
8 appoint the members of the adoption practices committee under
9 Section 162.603, Family Code, as added by this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.