

By: Garcia

S.B. No. 1929

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the transfer of jurisdiction and the appointment of an
3 attorney ad litem or guardian ad litem in certain suits affecting
4 the parent-child relationship.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 155.207(a), Family Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) Not later than the 10th working day after ~~[On]~~ the date
9 ~~[signing of]~~ an order of transfer is signed, the clerk of the court
10 transferring a proceeding shall send to the proper court in the
11 county to which transfer is being made:

12 (1) the pleadings in the pending proceeding and any
13 other document specifically requested by a party;

14 (2) certified copies of all entries in the minutes;
15 ~~[and]~~

16 (3) a certified copy of each final order; and

17 (4) a certified copy of the order of transfer signed by
18 the transferring court.

19 SECTION 2. Section 262.203, Family Code, is amended by
20 adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

21 (d) An order of transfer must include:

22 (1) the date of any future hearings in the case that
23 have been scheduled by the transferring court;

24 (2) any date scheduled by the transferring court for

1 the dismissal of the suit under Section 263.401; and

2 (3) the name and contact information of each attorney
3 ad litem or guardian ad litem appointed in the suit.

4 (e) The court to which a suit is transferred may retain an
5 attorney ad litem or guardian ad litem appointed by the
6 transferring court. If the court finds that the appointment of a
7 new attorney ad litem or guardian ad litem is appropriate, the court
8 shall appoint that attorney ad litem or guardian ad litem before the
9 earlier of:

10 (1) the 10th day after the date of receiving the order
11 of transfer; or

12 (2) the date of the first scheduled hearing after the
13 transfer.

14 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
15 to an order of transfer rendered in a suit affecting the
16 parent-child relationship on or after the effective date of this
17 Act. An order of transfer in a suit affecting the parent-child
18 relationship rendered before the effective date of this Act is
19 governed by the law in effect on the date the order was rendered,
20 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

21 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.