



17 FEB 28 AM 9:10

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

BY: Teach

1 Amend H.B. 5 by adding the following appropriately
2 numbered SECTIONS to the bill and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS
3 of the bill accordingly:

4 SECTION _____. Section 263.0021, Family Code, is amended by
5 adding Subsections (e) and (f) to read as follows:

6 (e) Notice of a hearing under this chapter provided to an
7 individual listed under Subsection (b)(2) must state that the
8 individual may, but is not required to, present evidence and be
9 heard at the hearing.

10 (f) In a hearing under this chapter, the court shall call an
11 individual listed under Subsection (b)(2) and the individual, at
12 the individual's discretion, may appear at the hearing and present
13 evidence and be heard regardless of whether either party calls the
14 individual to testify. If the individual testifies at the hearing,
15 the individual may be cross-examined by either party.

16 SECTION _____. The changes in law made by this Act to Section
17 263.0021, Family Code, apply to a suit affecting the parent-child
18 relationship filed on or after the effective date of this Act. A
19 suit affecting the parent-child relationship filed before the
20 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the
21 date the suit was filed, and the former law is continued in effect
22 for that purpose.