



17 MAY -7 PM 12:36  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BY: Barbara Blase

1 Amend H.B. No. 7 (house committee report) by adding the  
2 following appropriately numbered SECTION to the bill and  
3 renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

4 SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Sections 107.002(b) and (c), Family Code, are  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (b) A guardian ad litem appointed for the child under this  
7 chapter shall:

8 (1) within a reasonable time after the appointment,  
9 interview:

10 (A) the child in a developmentally appropriate  
11 manner, if the child is four years of age or older;

12 (B) each person who has significant knowledge of  
13 the child's history and condition, including educators, welfare  
14 service providers, and any foster parent of the child; and

15 (C) the parties to the suit;

16 (2) seek to elicit in a developmentally appropriate  
17 manner the child's expressed objectives;

18 (3) consider the child's expressed objectives without  
19 being bound by those objectives;

20 (4) encourage settlement and the use of alternative  
21 forms of dispute resolution; and

22 (5) perform any specific task directed by the court.

23 (c) A guardian ad litem appointed for the child under this  
24 chapter is entitled to:

25 (1) receive a copy of each pleading or other paper  
26 filed with the court in the case in which the guardian ad litem is  
27 appointed;

28 (2) receive notice of each hearing in the case;

29 (3) participate in case staffings by the Department of

1 Family and Protective Services concerning the child;  
2 (4) attend all legal proceedings in the case but may  
3 not call or question a witness or otherwise provide legal services  
4 unless the guardian ad litem is a licensed attorney who has been  
5 appointed in the dual role;  
6 (5) review and sign, or decline to sign, an agreed  
7 order affecting the child; ~~and~~  
8 (6) explain the basis for the guardian ad litem's  
9 opposition to the agreed order if the guardian ad litem does not  
10 agree to the terms of a proposed order;  
11 (7) have access to the child in the child's placement;  
12 (8) be consulted and provide comments on decisions  
13 regarding placement, including kinship, foster care, and adoptive  
14 placements;  
15 (9) receive notification regarding and an invitation  
16 to attend meetings related to the child's service plan and a copy of  
17 the plan; and  
18 (10) attend court-ordered mediation regarding the  
19 child's case.