

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 2294  
By: Cain  
Juvenile Justice & Family Issues  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Interested parties note that it is often preferable for an adoption suit to take place in the county where the child being adopted resides. H.B. 2294 seeks to simplify adoptions by requiring a court with continuing and exclusive jurisdiction of a suit affecting the parent-child relationship to transfer the suit to the county in which the child sought to be adopted resides.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 2294 amends the Family Code to require a petition filed in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship in which adoption of a child is requested to include a statement that the court in which the petition is filed has jurisdiction of the suit. The bill requires a court having continuing, exclusive jurisdiction of a suit affecting the parent-child relationship, on the filing of a motion showing that a suit in which adoption of the child is requested has been filed in another court located in the county in which the child resides and requesting a transfer to that court, to transfer the proceedings to the court in which the suit for adoption is pending within the time prescribed by law. The bill authorizes such a motion to be filed at any time and requires the motion to contain a certification that all other parties, including the attorney general, if applicable, have been informed of the filing of the motion.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2017.