

By: Capriglione, Romero, Jr.

H.B. No. 3785

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3785:

By: Murr

C.S.H.B. No. 3785

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to associate judges and court reporters for certain family  
3 law cases and proceedings.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 201.009, Family Code, is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 Sec. 201.009. COURT REPORTER; RECORD. In [(a) A court  
8 reporter may be provided during] a hearing held by an associate  
9 judge appointed under this chapter, a court reporter must be  
10 provided or the proceedings must be recorded with a good quality  
11 electronic audio recording device. A court reporter is required to  
12 be provided when the associate judge presides over a jury trial or  
13 child custody and parental termination matters [a contested final  
14 termination hearing].

15 ~~[(b) A party, the associate judge, or the referring court~~  
16 ~~may provide for a reporter during the hearing, if one is not~~  
17 ~~otherwise provided.~~

18 ~~[(c) Except as provided by Subsection (a), in the absence of~~  
19 ~~a court reporter or on agreement of the parties, the record may be~~  
20 ~~preserved by any means approved by the associate judge.~~

21 ~~[(d) The referring court or associate judge may tax the~~  
22 ~~expense of preserving the record under Subsection (c) as costs.~~

23 ~~[(e) On a request for a de novo hearing, the referring court~~  
24 ~~may consider testimony or other evidence in the record in addition~~

1 ~~to witnesses or other matters presented under Section [201.015](#).~~]

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.