

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 37
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 14, 2016; January 24, 2017,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
 1-4 March 6, 2017, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
 1-5 Nays 0; March 6, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the requirement to obtain certification for attorneys
 1-20 representing persons in guardianship proceedings.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. The heading to Chapter 1054, Estates Code, is
 1-23 amended to read as follows:

1-24 CHAPTER 1054. COURT OFFICERS, ~~[AND]~~ COURT-APPOINTED PERSONS, AND
 1-25 ATTORNEYS

1-26 SECTION 2. The heading to Subchapter E, Chapter 1054,
 1-27 Estates Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-28 SUBCHAPTER E. QUALIFICATIONS TO SERVE AS ~~[COURT-APPOINTED]~~
 1-29 ATTORNEY

1-30 SECTION 3. Section 1054.201(a), Estates Code, is amended to
 1-31 read as follows:

1-32 (a) An attorney representing any person's interests [~~for an~~
 1-33 ~~applicant for guardianship and a court-appointed attorney~~] in a
 1-34 guardianship proceeding, including an attorney ad litem, must be
 1-35 certified by the State Bar of Texas, or a person or other entity
 1-36 designated by the state bar, as having successfully completed a
 1-37 course of study in guardianship law and procedure sponsored by the
 1-38 state bar or the state bar's designee.

1-39 SECTION 4. Section 81.114(a), Government Code, is amended
 1-40 to read as follows:

1-41 (a) The state bar shall provide a course of instruction for
 1-42 attorneys who represent any person's interests [~~parties~~] in
 1-43 guardianship cases or who serve as court-appointed guardians.

1-44 SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act to Section
 1-45 1054.201, Estates Code, apply only to a guardianship proceeding
 1-46 filed on or after the effective date of this Act. A guardianship
 1-47 proceeding filed before the effective date of this Act is governed
 1-48 by the law in effect on the date the proceeding was filed, and the
 1-49 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1-50 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

1-51 * * * * *