

By: Bowers

H.B. No. 3121

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3121:

By: Dutton

C.S.H.B. No. 3121

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to an interim study of suits affecting the parent-child
3 relationship in cases involving abuse and other harmful conduct
4 engaged in by a party.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) Pursuant to Section 111.001, Family Code,
7 the standing committees of each house of the legislature having
8 jurisdiction over family law issues shall jointly study and
9 recommend revisions to the provisions of Chapter 153, Family Code,
10 regarding the manner in which the courts of this state, in rendering
11 an order for conservatorship and possession of and access to a
12 child, provide for the safety and best interest of the child. The
13 study must:

14 (1) focus on cases in which a party has engaged in:

15 (A) family violence or dating violence, as those
16 terms are defined by Chapter 71, Family Code;

17 (B) abuse or neglect, as those terms are defined
18 by Section 261.001, Family Code; or

19 (C) conduct constituting offenses under Sections
20 21.02, 22.011, 22.021 and 25.02, Penal Code; and

21 (2) include:

22 (A) the impact of a history of conduct described
23 by Subdivision (1) on a child; and

24 (B) the effects on the courts' considerations of

1 conduct described by Subdivision (1) in the appointment of joint
2 managing conservators, sole managing conservators, and possessory
3 conservators in suits affecting the parent-child relationship.

4 (b) Not later than December 1, 2020, the committees
5 described by Subsection (a) shall jointly submit a report of the
6 study's results to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the
7 speaker of the house of representatives, and members of the
8 legislature. The report must include recommendations for changes
9 to the relevant statutes.

10 SECTION 2. This Act expires September 1, 2021.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.