

By: White

H.B. No. 630

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the requirement that a court interview certain children
3 in chambers on issues regarding conservatorship and residence in a
4 suit affecting the parent-child relationship.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 153.009, Family Code, is amended by
7 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

8 (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), in a nonjury trial or
9 at a hearing, the court shall interview in chambers a child 16 years
10 of age or older to determine the child's wishes as to
11 conservatorship or as to the person who shall have the exclusive
12 right to determine the child's primary residence regardless of
13 whether an application for an interview with the child has been made
14 to the court by a person as described by that subsection.

15 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to a
16 suit affecting the parent-child relationship that is pending in a
17 trial court on the effective date of this Act or that is filed on or
18 after the effective date of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.