

AN ACT

relating to procedures in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.

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

SECTION 1. Section 161.001, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

(d-1) The court may not order termination under Subsection (b)(1)(M) unless the petition for the termination of the parent-child relationship is filed not later than the first anniversary of the date the department or an equivalent agency in another state was granted managing conservatorship of a child in the case that resulted in the termination of the parent-child relationship with respect to that child based on a finding that the parent's conduct violated Subsection (b)(1)(D) or (E) or substantially equivalent provisions of the law of another state.

SECTION 2. Section 262.2015(b), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The court may find under Subsection (a) that a parent has subjected the child to aggravated circumstances if:

(1) the parent abandoned the child without identification or a means for identifying the child;

(2) the child or another child of the parent is a victim of serious bodily injury or sexual abuse inflicted by the parent or by another person with the parent's consent;

1 (3) the parent has engaged in conduct against the
2 child or another child of the parent that would constitute an
3 offense under the following provisions of the Penal Code:

4 (A) Section 19.02 (murder);

5 (B) Section 19.03 (capital murder);

6 (C) Section 19.04 (manslaughter);

7 (D) Section 21.11 (indecent with a child);

8 (E) Section 22.011 (sexual assault);

9 (F) Section 22.02 (aggravated assault);

10 (G) Section 22.021 (aggravated sexual assault);

11 (H) Section 22.04 (injury to a child, elderly
12 individual, or disabled individual);

13 (I) Section 22.041 (abandoning or endangering
14 child);

15 (J) Section 25.02 (prohibited sexual conduct);

16 (K) Section 43.25 (sexual performance by a
17 child);

18 (L) Section 43.26 (possession or promotion of
19 child pornography);

20 (M) Section 21.02 (continuous sexual abuse of
21 young child or children);

22 (N) Section 43.05(a)(2) (compelling
23 prostitution); or

24 (O) Section 20A.02(a)(7) or (8) (trafficking of
25 persons);

26 (4) the parent voluntarily left the child alone or in
27 the possession of another person not the parent of the child for at

1 least six months without expressing an intent to return and without
2 providing adequate support for the child;

3 (5) ~~the parent's parental rights with regard to~~
4 ~~another child have been involuntarily terminated based on a finding~~
5 ~~that the parent's conduct violated Section 161.001(b)(1)(D) or (E)~~
6 ~~or a substantially equivalent provision of another state's law;~~

7 ~~(6)~~ the parent has been convicted for:

8 (A) the murder of another child of the parent and
9 the offense would have been an offense under 18 U.S.C. Section
10 1111(a) if the offense had occurred in the special maritime or
11 territorial jurisdiction of the United States;

12 (B) the voluntary manslaughter of another child
13 of the parent and the offense would have been an offense under 18
14 U.S.C. Section 1112(a) if the offense had occurred in the special
15 maritime or territorial jurisdiction of the United States;

16 (C) aiding or abetting, attempting, conspiring,
17 or soliciting an offense under Paragraph (A) or (B); or

18 (D) the felony assault of the child or another
19 child of the parent that resulted in serious bodily injury to the
20 child or another child of the parent; or

21 (6) ~~(7) the parent's parental rights with regard to~~
22 ~~another child of the parent have been involuntarily terminated; or~~

23 ~~(8)~~ the parent is required under any state or
24 federal law to register with a sex offender registry.

25 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
26 to a court order for the involuntary termination of the
27 parent-child relationship rendered on or after the effective date

1 of this Act. A court order rendered before the effective date of
2 this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the order was
3 rendered, and the former law is continued in effect for that
4 purpose.

5 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2924 was passed by the House on May 5, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 133, Nays 14, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2924 on May 28, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 126, Nays 19, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2924 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 22, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor