

By: Neave

H.B. No. 3962

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3962:

By: Talarico

C.S.H.B. No. 3962

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the powers and duties of a domestic relations office.

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

4 SECTION 1. Section 203.004(a), Family Code, is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (a) A domestic relations office may:

7 (1) collect and disburse child support payments that  
8 are ordered by a court to be paid through a domestic relations  
9 registry;

10 (2) maintain records of payments and disbursements  
11 made under Subdivision (1);

12 (3) file a suit under this title, including a suit to:

13 (A) establish paternity; and

14 (B) modify, clarify, or enforce a court order for  
15 child support or for possession of and access to a child; ~~and~~

16 [~~(C) modify or clarify an existing child support~~  
17 ~~order,~~]

18 (4) provide an informal forum in which alternative  
19 dispute resolution is used to resolve disputes under this code;

20 (5) prepare a court-ordered child custody evaluation  
21 or adoption evaluation under Chapter 107;

22 (6) represent a child as an amicus attorney, an  
23 attorney ad litem, or a guardian ad litem in a suit in which:

24 (A) termination of the parent-child relationship

1 is sought; or

2 (B) conservatorship of or access to a child is  
3 contested;

4 (7) serve as a friend of the court;

5 (8) provide predivorce counseling ordered by a court;

6 (9) provide community supervision services under  
7 Chapter 157;

8 (10) provide information to assist a party in  
9 understanding, complying with, or enforcing the party's duties and  
10 obligations under this title [~~Subdivision (3)~~];

11 (11) provide, directly or through a contract,  
12 visitation services, including supervision of court-ordered  
13 visitation, visitation exchange, or other similar services;

14 (12) issue an administrative writ of withholding under  
15 Subchapter F, Chapter 158; and

16 (13) provide parenting coordinator services under  
17 Chapter 153.

18 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.