By: Huffman, et al.   S.B. No. 567
     (Neave)

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   Sec. 203.004. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) A domestic relations

7 office may:

8   (1) collect and disburse child support payments that

9 are ordered by a court to be paid through a domestic relations

10 registry;

11   (2) maintain records of payments and disbursements

12 made under Subdivision (1);

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

14   (A) establish paternity; and

15   (B) enforce, clarify or modify a court order for

16 child support or for possession of and access to a child; [and

17   [(C) modify or clarify an existing child support

18 order;]

19   (4) provide an informal forum in which alternative

20 dispute resolution is used to resolve disputes under this code;

21   (5) prepare a court-ordered child custody evaluation

22 or adoption evaluation under Chapter 107;

23   (6) represent a child as an amicus attorney, an

24 attorney ad litem, or a guardian ad litem in a suit in which:

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1   (A)   termination of the parent-child relationship
2   is sought; or
3   (B)   conservatorship of or access to a child is
4   contested;
5   (7)   serve as a friend of the court;
6   (8)   provide predivorce counseling ordered by a court;
7   (9)   provide community supervision services under
8   Chapter 157;
9   (10) provide information to assist a party in
10   understanding, complying with, or enforcing the party's duties and
11   obligations under this code [Subdivision (3)];
12   (11) provide, directly or through a contract,
13   visitation services, including supervision of court-ordered
14   visitation, visitation exchange, or other similar services;
15   (12) issue an administrative writ of withholding under
16   Subchapter F, Chapter 158; and
17   (13) provide parenting coordinator services under
18   Chapter 153.
19   SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.