

By: Zaffirini
(Leach)

S.B. No. 615

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to probate and guardianship matters and proceedings and
other matters involving probate courts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 30.014(a), Civil Practice and Remedies
Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In a civil action, including a probate or guardianship
proceeding, filed in a district court, county court, ~~or~~ statutory
county court, or statutory probate court, each party or the party's
attorney shall include in its initial pleading:

(1) the last three numbers of the party's driver's
license number, if the party has been issued a driver's license; and

(2) the last three numbers of the party's social
security number, if the party has been issued a social security
number.

SECTION 2. Section 33.101, Estates Code, is amended to read
as follows:

Sec. 33.101. TRANSFER TO OTHER COUNTY IN WHICH VENUE IS
PROPER. If probate proceedings involving the same estate are
commenced in more than one county and the court making a
determination of venue as provided by Section 33.053 determines
that venue is proper in another county, the court clerk shall make
and retain a copy of the entire file in the case and transmit the
original file in electronic or paper form to the court in the county

1 in which venue is proper. The court to which the file is
2 transmitted shall conduct the proceeding in the same manner as if
3 the proceeding had originally been commenced in that county.

4 SECTION 3. Section 33.102(a), Estates Code, is amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (a) If it appears to the court at any time before the final
7 order in a probate proceeding is rendered that the court does not
8 have priority of venue over the proceeding, the court shall, on the
9 application of an interested person, transfer the proceeding to the
10 proper county by transmitting to the proper court in that county in
11 electronic or paper form:

12 (1) the original file in the case; and

13 (2) certified copies of all entries that have been
14 made in the judge's probate docket in the proceeding.

15 SECTION 4. Section 33.103, Estates Code, is amended by
16 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

17 (c) The transmittal under Subsection (b) of the original
18 file and the certified copy of the index may be in electronic or
19 paper form, except that an original will filed in the probate
20 proceeding, if any, must be delivered to the court to which the
21 proceeding is transferred.

22 SECTION 5. Section 51.003(b), Estates Code, is amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (b) A citation or notice issued by the county clerk must be
25 styled "The State of Texas" and be signed by the clerk under the
26 court's ~~clerk's~~ seal.

27 SECTION 6. Section 202.054, Estates Code, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 Sec. 202.054. PERSONAL SERVICE OF CITATION MAY BE REQUIRED.

3 (a) The court may require that service of citation in a proceeding
4 to declare heirship be made by personal service on some or all of
5 those named as distributees in the application filed under Section
6 202.005.

7 (b) If a distributee to be cited under Subsection (a) is
8 absent from or is not a resident of this state, any disinterested
9 person competent to make an oath that the citation was served may
10 serve the citation.

11 SECTION 7. Section 351.351, Estates Code, is amended to
12 read as follows:

13 Sec. 351.351. APPLICABILITY. This subchapter does not
14 apply to:

15 (1) the appointment of an independent executor or
16 administrator under Section 401.002 or 401.003(a); or

17 (2) the appointment of a successor independent
18 administrator ~~[executor]~~ under Section 404.005.

19 SECTION 8. Section 404.0036(b), Estates Code, is amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (b) If an independent executor is removed by the court under
22 Section 404.003 or 404.0035, the court may, on application, appoint
23 a successor independent administrator ~~[executor]~~ as provided by
24 Section 404.005.

25 SECTION 9. The heading to Section 404.005, Estates Code, is
26 amended to read as follows:

27 Sec. 404.005. COURT-APPOINTED SUCCESSOR INDEPENDENT

1 ADMINISTRATOR [~~EXECUTOR~~].

2 SECTION 10. Sections 404.005(a), (b), (c), (h), and (i),
3 Estates Code, are amended to read as follows:

4 (a) If the will of a person who dies testate names an
5 independent executor who, having qualified, fails for any reason to
6 continue to serve, or is removed for cause by the court, and the
7 will does not name a successor independent executor or if each
8 successor executor named in the will fails for any reason to qualify
9 as executor or indicates by affidavit filed with the application
10 for an order continuing independent administration the successor
11 executor's inability or unwillingness to serve as successor
12 independent executor, all of the distributees of the decedent as of
13 the filing of the application for an order continuing independent
14 administration may apply to the probate court for the appointment
15 of a qualified person, firm, or corporation to serve as successor
16 independent administrator [~~executor~~]. If the probate court finds
17 that continued administration of the estate is necessary, the court
18 shall enter an order continuing independent administration and
19 appointing the person, firm, or corporation designated in the
20 application as successor independent administrator [~~executor~~],
21 unless the probate court finds that it would not be in the best
22 interest of the estate to do so. The successor independent
23 administrator [~~executor~~] shall serve with all of the powers and
24 privileges granted to the successor's predecessor independent
25 executor.

26 (b) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, if a
27 distributee described in this section is an incapacitated person,

1 the guardian of the person of the distributee may sign the
2 application on behalf of the distributee. If the probate court
3 finds that either the continuing of independent administration or
4 the appointment of the person, firm, or corporation designated in
5 the application as successor independent administrator [~~executor~~]
6 would not be in the best interest of the incapacitated person, then,
7 notwithstanding Subsection (a), the court may not enter an order
8 continuing independent administration of the estate. If the
9 distributee is an incapacitated person and has no guardian of the
10 person, the court may appoint a guardian ad litem to make
11 application on behalf of the incapacitated person if the probate
12 court considers such an appointment necessary to protect the
13 interest of that distributee. If a distributee described in this
14 section is a minor and has no guardian of the person, a natural
15 guardian of the minor may sign the application for the order
16 continuing independent administration on the minor's behalf unless
17 a conflict of interest exists between the minor and the natural
18 guardian.

19 (c) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, if a
20 trust is created in the decedent's will or if the decedent's will
21 devises property to a trustee as described by Section 254.001, the
22 person or class of persons entitled to receive property outright
23 from the trust on the decedent's death and those first eligible to
24 receive the income from the trust, determined as if the trust were
25 to be in existence on the date of the filing of the application for
26 an order continuing independent administration, shall, for the
27 purposes of this section, be considered to be the distributee or

1 distributees on behalf of the trust, and any other trust or trusts
2 coming into existence on the termination of the trust, and are
3 authorized to apply for an order continuing independent
4 administration on behalf of the trust without the consent or
5 agreement of the trustee or any other beneficiary of the trust, or
6 the trustee or any beneficiary of any other trust which may come
7 into existence on the termination of the trust. If a person
8 considered to be a distributee under this subsection is an
9 incapacitated person, the trustee or cotrustee may apply for the
10 order continuing independent administration or sign the
11 application on the incapacitated person's behalf if the trustee or
12 cotrustee is not the person proposed to serve as the independent
13 administrator ~~[executor]~~.

14 (h) If a successor independent administrator ~~[executor]~~ is
15 appointed under this section, then, unless the probate court shall
16 waive bond on application for waiver, the successor independent
17 administrator ~~[executor]~~ shall be required to enter into bond
18 payable to and to be approved by the judge and the judge's
19 successors in a sum that is found by the judge to be adequate under
20 all circumstances, or a bond with one surety in an amount that is
21 found by the judge to be adequate under all circumstances, if the
22 surety is an authorized corporate surety.

23 (i) Absent proof of fraud or collusion on the part of a
24 judge, the judge may not be held civilly liable for the commission
25 of misdeeds or the omission of any required act of any person, firm,
26 or corporation designated as a successor independent administrator
27 ~~[executor]~~ under this section. Section [351.354](#) does not apply to an

1 appointment of a successor independent administrator ~~[executor]~~
2 under this section.

3 SECTION 11. Section 452.006, Estates Code, is amended by
4 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

5 (c) The appointee shall file with the court proof of service
6 of the notice required under Subsection (a) in the manner provided
7 by Section 51.103(b)(3).

8 SECTION 12. Section 503.002, Estates Code, is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 Sec. 503.002. RECORDING OF CERTAIN FOREIGN TESTAMENTARY
11 INSTRUMENTS IN LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH ~~[ORIGINAL SIGNATURES NOT~~
12 ~~REQUIRED]~~. (a) An authenticated copy of a will or other
13 testamentary instrument described by Section 503.001(a), along
14 with a copy of the judgment, order, or decree by which the
15 instrument was admitted to probate that has the attestation and
16 certificate required by Section 501.002(c), that is written in
17 whole or in part in a language other than English may be filed for
18 recording in the deed records in any county in this state in which
19 the land conveyed or disposed of in the instrument is located if:

20 (1) a correct English translation is recorded with the
21 authenticated copies of the will or other testamentary instrument
22 and judgment, order, or decree by which the instrument was admitted
23 to probate; and

24 (2) the accuracy of the translation is sworn to before
25 an officer authorized to administer oaths ~~[Notwithstanding Section~~
26 ~~501.002(c), the original signatures required by that section may~~
27 ~~not be required for a recordation in the deed records in accordance~~

1 ~~with Section 503.001 or for a purpose described by Section 503.051~~
2 ~~or 503.052]~~.

3 **(b) The recording of an authenticated copy of a will or**
4 **other testamentary instrument and a copy of the judgment, order, or**
5 **decree in the manner provided by Subsection (a) operates as**
6 **constructive notice from the date of filing to all persons of the:**

7 **(1) existence of the instrument; and**

8 **(2) title or titles conferred by the instrument.**

9 SECTION 13. Section 1023.006, Estates Code, is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 Sec. 1023.006. TRANSFER OF RECORD. When an order of
12 transfer is made under Section 1023.005, the clerk shall record any
13 unrecorded papers of the guardianship required to be recorded. On
14 payment of the clerk's fee, the clerk shall transmit in electronic
15 or paper form to the county clerk of the county to which the
16 guardianship was ordered transferred:

17 (1) the case file of the guardianship proceedings; and

18 (2) a certified copy of the index of the guardianship
19 records.

20 SECTION 14. Section 1023.007, Estates Code, is amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Sec. 1023.007. TRANSFER EFFECTIVE. The order transferring
23 a guardianship does not take effect until:

24 (1) the case file and a certified copy of the index
25 required by Section 1023.006 are filed in electronic or paper form
26 in the office of the county clerk of the county to which the
27 guardianship was ordered transferred; and

6 SECTION 15. Section 1051.003(b), Estates Code, is amended
7 to read as follows:

11 SECTION 16. The heading to Chapter 1054, Estates Code, is
12 amended to read as follows:

SECTION 17. The heading to Subchapter E, Chapter 1054, Estates Code, is amended to read as follows:

SECTION 18. Section 1054.201, Estates Code, is amended by
amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
follows:

guardianship law and procedure sponsored by the state bar or the state bar's designee.

(c) An attorney may commence representation of a person's interests and file an appearance in a guardianship proceeding before completing the course required for certification under Subsection (a), but must complete the course not later than the 14th day after the date of filing the appearance and before filing any substantive motion in the guardianship proceeding.

SECTION 19. Section 1101.001(b), Estates Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The application must be sworn to by the applicant and state:

(1) the proposed ward's name, sex, date of birth, and address;

(2) the name, former name, if any, relationship, and address of the person the applicant seeks to have appointed as guardian;

(3) whether guardianship of the person or estate, or both, is sought;

(3-a) whether alternatives to guardianship and available supports and services to avoid guardianship were considered;

(3-b) whether any alternatives to guardianship and supports and services available to the proposed ward considered are feasible and would avoid the need for a guardianship;

(4) the nature and degree of the alleged incapacity, the specific areas of protection and assistance requested, and the

1 limitation or termination of rights requested to be included in the
2 court's order of appointment, including a termination of:

3 (A) the right of a proposed ward who is 18 years
4 of age or older to vote in a public election;

5 (B) the proposed ward's eligibility to hold or
6 obtain a license to operate a motor vehicle under Chapter 521,
7 Transportation Code; and

8 (C) the right of a proposed ward to make personal
9 decisions regarding residence;

10 (5) the facts requiring the appointment of a guardian;

11 (6) the interest of the applicant in the appointment
12 of a guardian;

13 (7) the nature and description of any kind of
14 guardianship existing for the proposed ward in any other state;

15 (8) the name and address of any person or institution
16 having the care and custody of the proposed ward;

17 (9) the approximate value and a detailed description
18 of the proposed ward's property, including:

19 (A) liquid assets, including any compensation,
20 pension, insurance, or allowance to which the proposed ward may be
21 entitled; and

22 (B) non-liquid assets, including real property;

23 (10) the name and address of any person whom the
24 applicant knows to hold a power of attorney signed by the proposed
25 ward and a description of the type of power of attorney;

26 (11) for a proposed ward who is a minor, the following
27 information if known by the applicant:

1 (A) the name of each of the proposed ward's
2 parents and either the parent's address or that the parent is
3 deceased;

4 (B) the name and age of each of the proposed
5 ward's siblings, if any, and either the sibling's address or that
6 the sibling is deceased; and

7 (C) if each of the proposed ward's parents and
8 adult siblings are deceased, the names and addresses of the
9 proposed ward's other living relatives who are related to the
10 proposed ward within the third degree by consanguinity and who are
11 adults;

12 (12) for a proposed ward who is a minor, whether the
13 minor was the subject of a legal or conservatorship proceeding in
14 the preceding two years and, if so:

15 (A) the court involved;

16 (B) the nature of the proceeding; and

17 (C) any final disposition of the proceeding;

18 (13) for a proposed ward who is an adult, the following
19 information if known by the applicant:

20 (A) the name of the proposed ward's spouse, if
21 any, and either the spouse's address or that the spouse is deceased;

22 (B) the name of each of the proposed ward's
23 parents and either the parent's address or that the parent is
24 deceased;

25 (C) the name and age of each of the proposed
26 ward's siblings, if any, and either the sibling's address or that
27 the sibling is deceased;

(D) the name and age of each of the proposed ward's children, if any, and either the child's address or that the child is deceased; and

(E) if there is no living spouse, parent, adult sibling, or adult child of the proposed ward, the names and addresses of the proposed ward's other living relatives who are related to the proposed ward within the third degree by consanguinity and who are adults;

(14) facts showing that the court has venue of the proceeding; and

(15) if applicable, that the person whom the applicant seeks to have appointed as a guardian is a private professional guardian who is certified under Subchapter C, Chapter 155, Government Code, and has complied with the requirements of Subchapter G, Chapter 1104.

SECTION 20. Section 1101.153(a), Estates Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A court order appointing a guardian must:

(1) specify:

(A) ~~[(1)]~~ the name of the person appointed;

(B) ~~[(2)]~~ the name of the ward;

(C) ~~[(3)]~~ whether the guardian is of the person or estate of the ward, or both;

(D) ~~[(4)]~~ the amount of any bond required;

(E) ~~[(5)]~~ if it is a guardianship of the estate of the ward and the court considers an appraisal to be necessary, one, two, or three disinterested persons to appraise the estate and

1 to return the appraisalment to the court; and

2 (F) [~~(6)~~] that the clerk will issue letters of
3 guardianship to the person appointed when the person has qualified
4 according to law; and

5 (2) if the court waives the guardian's training
6 requirement, contain a finding that the waiver is in accordance
7 with rules adopted by the supreme court under Section 155.203,
8 Government Code.

9 SECTION 21. Subchapter A, Chapter 1151, Estates Code, is
10 amended by adding Section 1151.005 to read as follows:

11 Sec. 1151.005. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IN WHICH WARD IS PARTY OR
12 WITNESS. The guardian of the person or of the estate of a ward may
13 not be excluded from attending a legal proceeding in which the ward
14 is:

15 (1) a party; or

16 (2) participating as a witness.

17 SECTION 22. Section 1251.005, Estates Code, is amended to
18 read as follows:

19 Sec. 1251.005. CITATION AND NOTICE OF APPLICATION. (a) On
20 the filing of an application for temporary guardianship, the court
21 clerk shall issue:

22 (1) citation [~~notice~~] to be served on:

23 (A) [~~(1)~~] the proposed ward; and

24 (B) [~~(2)~~—the proposed ward's appointed attorney,

25 and

26 [~~(3)~~] the proposed temporary guardian named in the
27 application, if that person is not the applicant; and

1 (2) notice to be served on the proposed ward's
2 appointed attorney.

3 (b) The citation or notice issued as provided by Subsection
4 (a) must describe:

5 (1) the rights of the parties; and

6 (2) the date, time, place, purpose, and possible
7 consequences of a hearing on the application.

8 **(b-1) The citation issued as provided by Subsection (a) must**
9 **contain a statement regarding the authority of a person under**
10 **Section 1051.252 who is interested in the estate or welfare of a**
11 **proposed ward or, if a guardianship is created, the ward to file**
12 **with the county clerk a written request to be notified of all, or**
13 **any specified, motions, applications, or pleadings filed with**
14 **respect to the temporary guardianship proceeding by any person or**
15 **by a person specifically designated in the request.**

16 (c) A copy of the application must be attached to the
17 citation or notice.

18 SECTION 23. The heading to Section 1251.153, Estates Code,
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 Sec. 1251.153. DELIVERY OF ESTATE, FILING OF FINAL REPORT,
21 AND[+] DISCHARGE OF TEMPORARY GUARDIAN.

22 SECTION 24. Section 1251.153, Estates Code, is amended by
23 adding Subsection (a-1) and amending Subsection (b) to read as
24 follows:

25 **(a-1) At the expiration of a temporary guardianship of the**
26 **person, the temporary guardian shall file with the court clerk a**
27 **final report that:**

1 (1) if the ward is living, describes each reason the
2 temporary guardianship of the person expired, including a statement
3 of facts regarding whether the temporary guardianship expired
4 because:

5 (A) the ward was found by the court to have full
6 capacity, or sufficient capacity with supports and services, to
7 care for himself or herself;

8 (B) alternatives to guardianship have been
9 established to meet the needs of the ward; or

10 (C) a permanent guardian appointed by the court
11 has qualified to serve as the ward's guardian; or

12 (2) if the ward is deceased, includes the date and
13 place of death, if known, in the form and manner of the report
14 required to be filed by a guardian of the person under Section
15 [1163.103](#).

16 (b) On proof of delivery under Subsection (a) and approval
17 by the court of a final report filed with the court clerk under
18 Subsection (a-1), as applicable:

19 (1) the temporary guardian shall be discharged; and

20 (2) the sureties on the temporary guardian's bond
21 shall be released as to future liability.

22 SECTION 25. Section [1253.001](#), Estates Code, is amended to
23 read as follows:

24 Sec. 1253.001. APPLICATION TO TRANSFER GUARDIANSHIP TO
25 FOREIGN JURISDICTION. On application of the guardian or on the
26 court's own motion, a [~~A guardian of the person or estate may apply~~
27 ~~to the~~] court that has jurisdiction over the guardianship may [~~to~~]

1 transfer the guardianship to a court in a foreign jurisdiction to
2 which the ward has permanently moved.

3 SECTION 26. Section 25.0006, Government Code, is amended by
4 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-5) to read as
5 follows:

6 (a) Notwithstanding any other law except Subsection (a-4),
7 Subsections (a-1), (a-2), ~~[and]~~ (a-3), and (a-5) control over a
8 specific provision for a particular court or county that attempts
9 to create a requirement for a bond or insurance that conflicts with
10 those subsections.

11 (a-5) A bond executed under Subsection (a-1) by the judge
12 elected or appointed to a statutory county court or an insurance
13 policy obtained under Subsection (a-3) shall provide the same
14 coverage to a visiting judge assigned to the court or associate
15 judge appointed to serve the court as the bond or insurance policy
16 provides to the judge elected or appointed to the court.

17 SECTION 27. Section 25.00231, Government Code, is amended
18 by adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

19 (f) Notwithstanding Subsection (e), a bond executed under
20 Subsection (b) by the judge elected or appointed to a statutory
21 probate court or an insurance policy obtained under Subsection (c)
22 shall provide the same coverage to a visiting judge assigned to the
23 court or to an associate judge appointed by the court as the bond or
24 insurance policy provides to the judge elected or appointed to the
25 court.

26 SECTION 28. Section 25.0027, Government Code, is amended to
27 read as follows:

1 Sec. 25.0027. JURIES; PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE. The drawing
2 of jury panels, selection of jurors, and practice in the statutory
3 probate courts must conform to that prescribed by law for county
4 courts, except that practice, procedure, rules of evidence,
5 issuance of process and writs, juries, including the number of
6 jurors provided the parties to a proceeding may agree to try a
7 particular case with fewer than 12 jurors, and all other matters
8 pertaining to the conduct of trials and hearings in the statutory
9 probate courts involving those matters of concurrent jurisdiction
10 with district courts are governed by the laws and rules pertaining
11 to district courts.

12 SECTION 29. Section 74.141, Government Code, is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 Sec. 74.141. DEFENSE OF JUDGES. The attorney general shall
15 defend a state district judge, a presiding judge of an
16 administrative region, the presiding judge of the statutory probate
17 courts, a visiting judge assigned to hear a guardianship or probate
18 matter by the presiding judge of the statutory probate courts, or an
19 active, retired, or former judge assigned under this chapter in any
20 action or suit in any court in which the judge is a defendant
21 because of his office or capacity as judge if the judge requests the
22 attorney general's assistance in the defense of the suit.

23 SECTION 30. Section 81.114, Government Code, is amended by
24 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (e) to read as
25 follows:

26 (a) The state bar shall provide a course of instruction for
27 attorneys who represent any person's interests [~~parties~~] in

guardianship cases or who serve as court-appointed guardians.

(e) The course of instruction described by this section must be low-cost and available to persons throughout this state, including on the Internet provided through the state bar.

SECTION 31. Section 155.205(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The commission shall obtain:

(1) fingerprint-based criminal history record information of a proposed guardian ~~[an applicant]~~ if:

(A) the liquid assets of the estate of a ward exceed \$50,000; or

(B) the proposed guardian is not a resident of this state; or

(2) name-based criminal history record information of a proposed guardian, including any criminal history record information under the current name and all former names of the proposed guardian, ~~[an applicant]~~ if:

(A) the liquid assets of the estate of a ward are \$50,000 or less; and

(B) the proposed guardian is a resident of this state.

SECTION 32. (a) Section 202.054, Estates Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a proceeding to declare heirship commenced on or after the effective date of this Act. A proceeding to declare heirship commenced before that date is governed by the law in effect on the date the proceeding was commenced, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1 (b) Section 452.006(c), Estates Code, as added by this Act,
2 applies only to a temporary administrator appointed on or after the
3 effective date of this Act. A temporary administrator appointed
4 before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in
5 effect on the date the administrator was appointed, and the former
6 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

7 (c) Section 503.002, Estates Code, as amended by this Act,
8 applies only to a copy of a testamentary instrument or other
9 document filed for recording on or after the effective date of this
10 Act. A copy of a testamentary instrument or other document filed
11 before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in
12 effect on the date the instrument or document was filed, and the
13 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

14 (d) Sections 1101.001 and 1251.005, Estates Code, as
15 amended by this Act, apply only to an application for the
16 appointment of a guardian or temporary guardian filed on or after
17 the effective date of this Act. An application for the appointment
18 of a guardian or temporary guardian filed before the effective date
19 of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the
20 application was filed, and the former law is continued in effect for
21 that purpose.

22 (e) Sections 1054.201 and 1101.153, Estates Code, as
23 amended by this Act, and Section 155.205, Government Code, as
24 amended by this Act, apply only to a guardianship proceeding
25 commenced on or after the effective date of this Act. A
26 guardianship proceeding commenced before the effective date of this
27 Act is governed by the law applicable to the proceeding immediately

1 before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is
2 continued in effect for that purpose.

3 (f) Sections 1251.153 and 1253.001, Estates Code, as
4 amended by this Act, apply to a guardianship created before, on, or
5 after the effective date of this Act.

6 (g) The changes in law made by this Act to Sections 25.0006
7 and 25.00231, Government Code, apply only to an insurance policy
8 delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1,
9 2022. An insurance policy delivered, issued for delivery, or
10 renewed before January 1, 2022, is governed by the law as it existed
11 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is
12 continued in effect for that purpose.

13 (h) Section 74.141, Government Code, as amended by this Act,
14 applies to a cause of action filed on or after the effective date of
15 this Act. A cause of action filed before the effective date of this
16 Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before the
17 effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for
18 that purpose.

19 SECTION 33. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.