

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

Revision 1

April 20, 2021

TO: Honorable Victoria Neave, Chair, House Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Issues

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3009 by Ramos (Relating to child custody evaluations.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Family Code to provide that in appointing a child custody evaluator in a suit in which a party subject to the child custody evaluation does not speak English as a primary language, the court must ensure the evaluator is able to effectively communicate in the party's primary language or will be accompanied by a certified interpreter.

The bill would provide that a licensed or certified interpreter assisting a child custody evaluator may accompany the evaluator in person or assist through the use of audio or video conferencing technology. The bill would allow a court to require the parties to pay any costs associated with obtaining assistance for a child custody evaluator from a licensed or certified interpreter.

Based on information provided by the Office of Court Administration, no significant fiscal impact to the state court system is anticipated as a result from implementing the provisions of the bill.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Admin

LBB Staff: JMc, DKN, BH, MW, AF