

By: Orr, et al.

H.B. No. 3401

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the certification of documents by county clerks,
3 district clerks, and joint county and district clerks.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 51, Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 51.3033 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 51.3033. CERTIFIED COPIES. A certified copy made of an
8 original document on file in a district clerk's office must
9 include:

- 10 (1) on each page of the copy:
11 (A) the clerk's signature or initials; and
12 (B) the district court seal; and
13 (2) on the final page of the copy:
14 (A) the clerk's attestation certifying that the
15 copy is a true and correct copy of the original document filed in
16 the clerk's office;
17 (B) the number of pages copied; and
18 (C) the date the copy was issued.

19 SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 51, Government Code, is
20 amended by adding Section 51.503 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 51.503. CERTIFIED COPIES. A certified copy made of an
22 original document on file in a joint clerk's office must include:

- 23 (1) on each page of the copy:
24 (A) the clerk's signature or initials; and

1 (B) the applicable court's seal; and

2 (2) on the final page of the copy:

3 (A) the clerk's attestation certifying that the
4 copy is a true and correct copy of the original document filed in
5 the clerk's office;

6 (B) the number of pages copied; and

7 (C) the date the copy was issued.

8 SECTION 3. Chapter 191, Local Government Code, is amended
9 by adding Section 191.0041 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 191.0041. CERTIFIED COPIES. A certified copy made of
11 an original document on file in a county clerk's office must
12 include:

13 (1) on each page of the copy:

14 (A) the clerk's signature or initials; and

15 (B) either:

16 (i) the commissioners court seal on a copy
17 of a document that is not a court document; or

18 (ii) the court seal on a copy of a court
19 document; and

20 (2) on the final page of the copy:

21 (A) the clerk's attestation certifying that the
22 copy is a true and correct copy of the original document filed in
23 the clerk's office;

24 (B) the number of pages copied; and

25 (C) the date the copy was issued.

26 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.