1	AN ACT
2	relating to the qualifications, communications, and recordkeeping
3	of a child custody evaluator and the admissibility of a child
4	custody evaluation under certain circumstances.
5	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
6	SECTION 1. Section 107.104(a), Family Code, is amended by
7	adding Subdivisions (3) and (4) to read as follows:
8	(3) "Developmental disability" has the meaning
9	assigned by Section 614.001, Health and Safety Code.
10	(4) "Intellectual disability" has the meaning
11	assigned by Section 591.003, Health and Safety Code.
12	SECTION 2. Section 107.104, Family Code, is amended by
13	adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:
14	(f) In addition to the qualifications prescribed by this
15	section, to be qualified to conduct a child custody evaluation
16	under this subchapter, an individual must complete, during the
17	two-year period preceding the evaluation, at least three hours of
18	initial or continuing training, as applicable, related to the care
19	of a child with an intellectual disability or developmental
20	disability, including education, therapy, preparation for
21	independent living, or methods for addressing physical or mental
22	health challenges.
23	SECTION 3. Section 107.112, Family Code, is amended by
24	amending Subsections (c), (d), and (f) and adding Subsection (i) to

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1 read as follows:

Except for records obtained from the department 2 (c) in accordance with Section 107.111 or from an entity described by 3 Section 107.1111(a) in accordance with Section 107.1111, a private 4 5 child custody evaluator shall, after completion of an evaluation and the [preparation and] filing of a notice [child custody 6 evaluation report] under Section 107.113(b) [107.113], make 7 8 available in a reasonable time the evaluator's records relating to the evaluation on the written request of an attorney for a party, a 9 10 party who does not have an attorney, and any person appointed under this chapter in the suit in which the evaluator conducted the 11 evaluation, unless a court has issued an order restricting 12 disclosure of the records. 13

Subject to Subsection (b-1) and except for records 14 (d) 15 obtained from the department in accordance with Section 107.111 or from an entity described by Section 107.1111(a) in accordance with 16 17 Section 107.1111, records relating to a child custody evaluation conducted by an employee of or contractor with a domestic relations 18 office shall, after completion of the evaluation and the 19 [preparation and] filing of a notice [child custody evaluation 20 report] under Section <u>107.113(b)</u> [107.113], be made available 21 according to the local rules and policies of the office on written 22 request of an attorney for a party, a party who does not have an 23 24 attorney, and any person appointed under this chapter in the suit in which the evaluator conducted the evaluation, unless a court has 25 26 issued an order restricting disclosure of the records [according to the local rules and policies of the office]. 27

1 (f) A private child custody evaluator shall retain all 2 records relating to a child custody evaluation conducted by the 3 evaluator until the ending date of the retention period adopted by 4 the licensing authority that issues the professional license held 5 by the evaluator based on the date the evaluator filed the <u>notice</u> 6 <u>under Section 107.113(b)</u> [child custody evaluation report prepared 7 under this section] with the court.

8 <u>(i) A child custody evaluator shall redact any social</u> 9 <u>security number or child's birth date from records subject to</u> 10 <u>disclosure under this section before making the records available.</u>

SECTION 4. Section 107.114, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

13 (a-1) Unless the child custody evaluator is appointed under 14 Section 107.106, the court may not admit into evidence a child 15 custody evaluation report prepared under Section 107.113 if:

16 (1) the child who is the subject of the report has an 17 intellectual disability or developmental disability; and

18 (2) on the date the evaluation that is the subject of 19 the report was made, the child custody evaluator had not satisfied 20 the training requirement under Section 107.104(f).

SECTION 5. Sections 107.104(f) and 107.114(a-1), Family Code, as added by this Act, apply only to a child custody evaluation that is conducted by a child custody evaluator appointed by a court on or after January 1, 2026. A child custody evaluation conducted by a child custody evaluator appointed by a court before January 1, 26 2026, is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in

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1 effect for that purpose.

2 SECTION 6. Sections 107.112(c) and (d), Family Code, as 3 amended by this Act, and Section 107.112(i), Family Code, as added 4 by this Act, apply to a disclosure of information made on or after 5 the effective date of this Act.

6 SECTION 7. Section 107.112(f), Family Code, as amended by 7 this Act, applies to all records in the possession of a child 8 custody evaluator on or after the effective date of this Act, 9 regardless of whether the records were created before, on, or after 10 that date.

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SECTION 8. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2340 was passed by the House on April 30, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2340 was passed by the Senate on May 21, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

Date

Governor