

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 2971

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to an agreed divorce order in a suit for dissolution of a
3 marriage.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 6, Family Code, is amended by adding
6 Subchapter G-1 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER G-1. AGREED DIVORCE ORDER

8 Sec. 6.631. AGREED DIVORCE ORDER. (a) Notwithstanding any
9 other law, a court with jurisdiction over a suit for dissolution of
10 a marriage may adopt as the court's final decree, without requiring
11 that the parties to the suit testify or appear in person before the
12 court, a written divorce agreement submitted by a party if:

13 (1) the agreement:

14 (A) includes:

21 (iv) a characterization of the parties'
22 assets as separate or community property:

16 (ii) if the agreement contains provisions
17 affecting the parent-child relationship:

20 (b) a statement that the terms of the
21 agreement are in the best interest of each child; and

26 (2) neither party has filed a written objection
27 opposing the adoption of the agreement as the final decree.

1 (b) If the court finds that the terms of the agreement are
2 just and right and in the best interest of each child, if
3 applicable, the court shall approve the agreement. If the court
4 approves the agreement, the court may set forth the agreement in
5 full or incorporate the agreement by reference in the final decree.

6 (c) If the court finds that the terms of the agreement are
7 not just and right or in the best interest of each child, if
8 applicable, the court shall continue the case for appropriate
9 proceedings.

10 (d) An agreement adopted by a court under this section is
11 binding on the parties.

12 SECTION 2. Subchapter G-1, Chapter 6, Family Code, as added
13 by this Act, applies to a suit for dissolution of a marriage that is
14 pending in a trial court on the effective date of this Act or that is
15 filed on or after the effective date of this Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.