

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 4035

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requirements for certain orders and judgments rendered  
in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship.

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

SECTION 1. Section 105.006, Family Code, is amended by  
adding Subsections (c-1) and (i) and amending Subsection (f) to  
read as follows:

(c-1) If a court renders an order under Subsection (c)  
prohibiting the disclosure of a party's information, the court  
shall require that the party provide to the court, for inclusion in  
the final order, an e-mail address at which the party may receive:

(1) notice and service of process of subsequent  
motions, petitions, or other legal pleadings using the electronic  
filing system established under Section 72.031, Government Code;  
and

(2) other legal documents or required notices.

(f) Except for an action in which contempt is sought, in any  
subsequent child support modification or enforcement action, the  
court may, on a showing that diligent effort has been made to  
determine the location of a party, consider due process  
requirements for notice and service of process to be met with  
respect to that party on delivery of written notice to the most  
recent residence address, e-mail address, or address of employment  
filed by that party with the court and the state case registry.

1        (i) The clerk may send orders, notices, and other documents  
2 relating to a final order to which this section applies to the  
3 e-mail address provided by a party under this section using the  
4 electronic filing system established under Section 72.031,  
5 Government Code.

6        SECTION 2. Section 106.002, Family Code, is amended by  
7 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

8        (c) In rendering a judgment for attorney's fees or expenses  
9 under this section, the court shall render the judgment separate  
10 from any judgment confirming the amount of arrearages under Section  
11 157.263.

12        SECTION 3. Section 157.167, Family Code, is amended by  
13 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

14        (a-1) In rendering a judgment for attorney's fees and court  
15 costs under Subsection (a), the court shall render the judgment  
16 separate from any judgment confirming the amount of arrearages  
17 under Section 157.263.

18        SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply to a  
19 suit affecting the parent-child relationship that is pending in a  
20 trial court on the effective date of this Act or that is filed on or  
21 after the effective date of this Act.

22        SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.