

By: Johnson

S.B. No. 1516

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the award of attorney's fees in an action involving the
3 exercise of certain constitutional rights.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 27.009(a), Civil Practice and Remedies
6 Code, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (c), if the court
8 orders dismissal of a legal action under this chapter, the court:

9 (1) shall award to the moving party court costs and
10 reasonable attorney's fees for [~~incurred in~~] defending against the
11 legal action; and

12 (2) may award to the moving party sanctions against
13 the party who brought the legal action as the court determines
14 sufficient to deter the party who brought the legal action from
15 bringing similar actions described in this chapter.

16 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
17 to an action filed on or after the effective date of this Act. An
18 action filed before the effective date of this Act is governed by
19 the law as it existed immediately before that date, and that law is
20 continued in effect for that purpose.

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