

SENATE AMENDMENTS
2nd Printing

By: Hull, Orr, Slawson, Holt, Dutton

H.B. No. 3783

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to court-ordered counseling in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.

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

SECTION 1. Section 153.010, Family Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

(a) Subject to Subsections (c) and (d), if ~~if~~ the court finds at the time of a hearing that the parties have a history of conflict in resolving an issue of conservatorship or possession of or access to the child, the court may order a party to~~+~~

~~(1)~~ participate in counseling with a mental health professional who:

(1) ~~(A)~~ has a background in family therapy;

(2) ~~(B)~~ has a mental health license that requires as a minimum a master's degree; and

(3) ~~(C)~~ has training in the dynamics of family ~~domestic~~ violence if the court determines that the training is relevant to the type of counseling needed~~, and~~

~~(2) pay the cost of counseling~~.

(c) In determining whether to order a party to participate in counseling under Subsection (a), the court shall consider evidence of family violence or sexual abuse in accordance with Section 153.004. If credible evidence of family violence or sexual

1 abuse is presented, the court may not order counseling in which a
2 victim of the violence or abuse participates in counseling sessions
3 together with the perpetrator of the violence or abuse.

4 (d) A court may not order a party to participate in
5 counseling under Subsection (a) in which the person conducting the
6 counseling requires:

7 (1) the isolation of a child who is the subject of the
8 suit from the child's family, school, religious community, other
9 community, or other sources of support, including by prohibiting or
10 preventing the child from contacting a parent or other family
11 member;

12 (2) a child who is the subject of the suit to stay
13 overnight or for multiple days in an out-of-state location or other
14 location, regardless of whether the child is accompanied by a
15 parent or other family member;

16 (3) the transportation of a child who is the subject of
17 the suit to a location by force, threat of force, undue coercion, or
18 other action that places the child's safety at risk;

19 (4) a temporary or permanent change in the periods of
20 possession of or access to a child who is the subject of the suit to
21 which a conservator of the child would otherwise be entitled; or

22 (5) the use of force, threat of force, undue coercion,
23 or verbal abuse against a child who is the subject of the suit.

24 SECTION 2. Section 153.010, Family Code, as amended by this
25 Act, applies to a suit affecting the parent-child relationship that
26 is pending in a trial court on the effective date of this Act or that
27 is filed on or after the effective date of this Act.

1 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act to Section
2 153.010, Family Code, constitutes a material and substantial change
3 of circumstances sufficient to warrant modification of a court
4 order or portion of a decree that provides for the possession of or
5 access to a child rendered before the effective date of this Act.

6 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

ADOPTED

MAY 27 2025

Lately Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

By: Tam Parker

H.B. No. 3783

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3783:

By: Nathan Johnson

C.S.H.B. No. 3783

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9 finds at the time of a hearing that the parties have a history of
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11 or access to the child, the court may order a party to:

12 (1) participate in counseling with a mental health
13 professional who:

14 (A) has a background in family therapy;

15 (B) has a mental health license that requires as
16 a minimum a master's degree; and

17 (C) has training in the dynamics of family
18 ~~[domestic]~~ violence if the court determines that the training is
19 relevant to the type of counseling needed; and

20 (2) pay the cost of counseling.

21 (c) In determining whether to order a party to participate
22 in counseling under Subsection (a), the court shall consider
23 evidence of family violence or sexual abuse in accordance with
24 Section 153.004. If credible evidence of family violence or sexual

1 abuse is presented, the court may not order:

2 (1) counseling in which a victim of the violence or
3 abuse participates in counseling sessions together with the
4 perpetrator of the violence or abuse; or

5 (2) a party who is a victim of the violence or abuse to
6 pay any of the cost of the counseling.

7 (d) A court may not order a party to participate in
8 counseling under Subsection (a) in which the person conducting the
9 counseling requires:

10 (1) the isolation of a child who is the subject of the
11 suit from the child's family, school, religious community, other
12 community, or other sources of support, including by prohibiting or
13 preventing the child from contacting a parent or other family
14 member;

15 (2) a child who is the subject of the suit to stay
16 overnight or for multiple days in an out-of-state location or other
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18 parent or other family member;

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20 the suit to a location by force, threat of force, undue coercion, or
21 other action that places the child's safety at risk;

22 (4) a temporary or permanent change in the periods of
23 possession of or access to a child who is the subject of the suit to
24 which a conservator of the child would otherwise be entitled; or

25 (5) the use of force, threat of force, undue coercion,
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1 Act, applies to a suit affecting the parent-child relationship that
2 is pending in a trial court on the effective date of this Act or that
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5 153.010, Family Code, constitutes a material and substantial change
6 of circumstances sufficient to warrant modification of a court
7 order or portion of a decree that provides for the possession of or
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10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 28, 2025

TO: Honorable Dustin Burrows, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3783 by Hull (Relating to court-ordered counseling in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.), **As Passed 2nd House**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would revise certain requirements of mental health professionals that provide court-ordered family counseling. The bill would require a court make certain considerations when ordering family counseling. The bill would restrict certain counseling conditions. The bill specifies that these changes would constitute a material and substantial change of circumstances sufficient to warrant modification of certain court orders or decrees.

According to the Office of Court Administration (OCA), no significant fiscal impact to the state court system is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

According to OCA, there could be an increase in motions filed to modify orders or decrees due to the bill creating a new material change in circumstances. The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined at this time.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

LBB Staff: JMc, SD, KDw, NTh, DA, JPa

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 26, 2025

TO: Honorable Bryan Hughes, Chair, Senate Committee on Jurisprudence

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3783 by Hull (relating to court-ordered counseling in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would revise certain requirements of mental health professionals that provide court-ordered family counseling. The bill would require a court make certain considerations when ordering family counseling. The bill would restrict certain counseling conditions. The bill specifies that these changes would constitute a material and substantial change of circumstances sufficient to warrant modification of certain court orders or decrees.

According to the Office of Court Administration (OCA), no significant fiscal impact to the state court system is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

According to OCA, there could be an increase in motions filed to modify orders or decrees due to the bill creating a new material change in circumstances. The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined at this time.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

LBB Staff: JMc, KDw, NTh, DA, JPa

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 20, 2025

TO: Honorable Bryan Hughes, Chair, Senate Committee on Jurisprudence

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3783 by Hull (Relating to court-ordered counseling in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would revise certain requirements of mental health professionals that provide court-ordered family counseling. The bill would require a court make certain considerations when ordering family counseling. The bill would restrict certain counseling conditions. The bill specifies that these changes would constitute a material and substantial change of circumstances sufficient to warrant modification of certain court orders or decrees.

According to the Office of Court Administration (OCA), no significant fiscal impact to the state court system is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

According to OCA, there could be an increase in motions filed to modify orders or decrees due to the bill creating a new material change in circumstances. The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined at this time.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

LBB Staff: JMc, KDw, NTh, DA, JPa

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 17, 2025

TO: Honorable Jeff Leach, Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3783 by Hull (relating to court-ordered counseling in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would revise certain requirements of mental health professionals that provide court-ordered family counseling. The bill would require a court make certain considerations when ordering family counseling. The bill would restrict certain counseling conditions. The bill specifies that these changes would constitute a material and substantial change of circumstances sufficient to warrant modification of certain court orders or decrees.

According to the Office of Court Administration (OCA), no significant fiscal impact to the state court system is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

According to OCA, there could be an increase in motions filed to modify orders or decrees due to the bill creating a new material change in circumstances. The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined at this time.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

LBB Staff: JMc, KDw, DA, NTh, JPa

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 6, 2025

TO: Honorable Jeff Leach, Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3783 by Hull (Relating to court-ordered counseling in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would revise certain requirements of mental health professionals that provide court-ordered family counseling. The bill would require a court make certain considerations when ordering family counseling. The bill would restrict certain counseling conditions. The bill specifies that these changes would constitute a material and substantial change of circumstances sufficient to warrant modification of certain court orders or decrees.

According to the Office of Court Administration (OCA), no significant fiscal impact to the state court system is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

According to OCA, there could be an increase in motions filed to modify orders or decrees due to the bill creating a new material change in circumstances. The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined at this time.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

LBB Staff: JMc, KDw, DA, NTh