

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 912

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the enforcement by contempt of certain orders in family law proceedings.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 9, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 9.0125 to read as follows:

Sec. 9.0125. REQUIREMENTS FOR ENFORCEMENT BY CONTEMPT.
Before a court may render an order in a proceeding under this title that includes enforcement by contempt, the court must find that the provisions of the order for which enforcement is requested are clear, specific, and unambiguous.

SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 157, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 157.1655 to read as follows:

Sec. 157.1655. REQUIREMENTS FOR ENFORCEMENT BY CONTEMPT.
Before a court may render an enforcement order in a proceeding under this title that includes enforcement by contempt, the court must find that the provisions of the order for which enforcement is requested are clear, specific, and unambiguous.

SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a proceeding to enforce an order that is commenced on or after the effective date of this Act. A proceeding to enforce commenced before that date is governed by the law in effect on the date the proceeding was commenced, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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1 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.