

By: Martinez

H.B. No. 2514

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the appointment of an individual qualified to conduct a child custody evaluation.

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

SECTION 1. Section 107.106, Family Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) This section applies only to a county:

(1) with a population of less than 500,000;

(2) that is contiguous to the Gulf of Mexico or a bay or inlet opening into the gulf and that borders the United Mexican States; or

(3) that borders a county described by Subdivision

(2).

(a-1) In a county to which this section applies [~~with a population of less than 500,000~~], if a court finds that an individual who meets the requirements of Section 107.104 is not available in the county to conduct a child custody evaluation in a timely manner, the court, after notice and hearing or on agreement of the parties, may appoint an individual the court determines to be otherwise qualified to conduct the evaluation.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.