

1-1 By: Parker S.B. No. 2165
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2025; March 24, 2025, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence; May 1, 2025,
1-4 reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 1, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			

1-13 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2165 By: Hughes

1-14 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-15 AN ACT

1-16 relating to prohibiting the dismissal of certain suits affecting
1-17 the parent-child relationship involving the Department of Family
1-18 and Protective Services.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 263, Family Code, is
1-21 amended by adding Section 263.4012 to read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 263.4012. PROHIBITING DISMISSAL AND RETAINING
1-23 JURISDICTION WHEN CHILD IS MISSING. (a) Notwithstanding Section
1-24 263.401, if the court finds the child is missing from the child's
1-25 substitute care provider, the court shall retain jurisdiction and
1-26 schedule a new dismissal date that is 180 days after the last
1-27 dismissal date. The court may not dismiss the case until the
1-28 earlier of the date the child is found or the date on which the child
1-29 would no longer be eligible to receive department services or
1-30 benefits.

1-31 (b) If the court retains jurisdiction under Subsection (a)
1-32 but does not commence the trial on the merits before the dismissal
1-33 date, the court's jurisdiction over the suit is terminated and the
1-34 suit is automatically dismissed without a court order.

1-35 SECTION 2. Section 263.501(g), Family Code, is amended to
1-36 read as follows:

1-37 (g) Unless the child is adopted or permanent managing
1-38 conservatorship of the child is awarded to an individual other than
1-39 the department, a [A] court required to conduct permanency hearings
1-40 for a child for whom the department has been appointed permanent
1-41 managing conservator may not dismiss a suit affecting the
1-42 parent-child relationship filed by the department regarding the
1-43 child while the child is:

1-44 (1) committed to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department
1-45 or released under the supervision of the Texas Juvenile Justice
1-46 Department; or

1-47 (2) missing from the child's substitute care
1-48 provider[, unless the child is adopted or permanent managing
1-49 conservatorship of the child is awarded to an individual other than
1-50 the department].

1-51 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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