

Amend **HB 79** (house committee printing) by adding the following appropriately numbered ARTICLE to the bill and renumbering subsequent ARTICLES and SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

ARTICLE \_\_\_\_\_. APPLICATION OF FOREIGN LAWS

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_.01. Title 6, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Chapter 148 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 148. APPLICATION OF FOREIGN LAWS; SELECTION OF FOREIGN FORUM

Sec. 148.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "foreign law" means a law, rule, or legal code of a jurisdiction outside of the states and territories of the United States.

Sec. 148.002. DECISION BASED ON FOREIGN LAW. A ruling or decision of a court, arbitrator, or administrative adjudicator on a matter arising under the Family Code may not be based on a foreign law if the application of that law would violate a civil right or a right guaranteed by the United States Constitution or the constitution or a statute of this state.

Sec. 148.003. CHOICE OF FOREIGN LAW OR FORUM IN CONTRACT.  
(a) A contract provision providing that a foreign law is to govern a dispute arising under the Family Code is void to the extent that the application of the foreign law to the dispute would violate a civil right or a right guaranteed by the United States Constitution or the constitution of this state.

(b) A contract provision providing that the forum to resolve a dispute arising under the Family Code is located outside the states and territories of the United States is void if the foreign law that would be applied to the dispute in that forum would, as applied, violate a civil right or a right guaranteed by the United States Constitution or the constitution of this state.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_.02. (a) Section 148.002, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, as added by this article, applies only to a ruling or decision that becomes final on or after the effective date of this Act. A ruling or decision that becomes final before the effective date of this Act and any appeal of that ruling or decision are governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

(b) Section 148.003, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, as added by this article, applies only to a contract entered into on or after the effective date of this Act. A contract entered into before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before that date, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.