

By: Leach, Sheets

H.B. No. 241

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to substituted service of citation through a social media presence.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 17, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Section 17.032 to read as follows:

Sec. 17.032. SUBSTITUTED SERVICE THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE. (a) If substituted service of citation is authorized under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, the court, in accordance with the rules adopted by the supreme court under Subsection (b), may prescribe as a method of service an electronic communication sent to the defendant through a social media presence.

(b) The supreme court shall adopt rules to provide for the substituted service of citation by an electronic communication sent to a defendant through a social media presence.

SECTION 2. The Supreme Court of Texas shall adopt rules under Section 17.032, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, as added by this Act, not later than December 31, 2015.

SECTION 3. Section 17.032, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, as added by this Act, applies only to an action commenced on or after the effective date of the rules adopted by the Supreme Court of Texas under that section.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.