

By: Ortega

H.B. No. 1410

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the ability of foster parents to intervene in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.

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

SECTION 1. Section 102.004(b), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) An original suit requesting possessory conservatorship may not be filed by a grandparent or other person. However, the court may grant a grandparent or other person deemed by the court to have had substantial past contact with the child or a foster parent described by Section 102.003(a)(12) leave to intervene in a pending suit filed by a person authorized to do so under this chapter ~~[subchapter]~~ if there is satisfactory proof to the court that appointment of a parent as a sole managing conservator or both parents as joint managing conservators would significantly impair the child's physical health or emotional development.

SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to an original suit affecting the parent-child relationship filed on or after the effective date of this Act. An original suit affecting the parent-child relationship filed before the effective date of this Act is subject to the law in effect at the time the suit was filed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.