

CHAPTER 527

H.B. No. 722

AN ACT

relating to authority of a law enforcement officer in Hidalgo County to refer a child to the Hidalgo County court conference committee.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 152, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 152.1142 to read as follows:

*Sec. 152.1142. HIDALGO COUNTY COURT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE. (a) A law enforcement officer in Hidalgo County may refer to the court conference committee a child who:*

- (1) has been charged with a Class C misdemeanor (first offense only);*
- (2) is a status offender; or*
- (3) is a truant or runaway.*

*(b) This section does not affect:*

- (1) the authority of a law enforcement officer under Title 3, Family Code; or*
- (2) the duty of a law enforcement officer to report a case to a state or local child protective services agency.*

*(c) In this section:*

- (1) "Child" has the meaning assigned by Section 51.02, Family Code.*
- (2) "Court conference committee" means the county juvenile probation program's court conference committee.*

SECTION 2. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on May 8, 1993, by a non-record vote; passed by the Senate on May 20, 1993, by a viva-voce vote.

Approved June 8, 1993.

Effective Aug. 30, 1993, 90 days after date of adjournment.