

CHAPTER 518

H.B. No. 657

AN ACT

relating to judicial training concerning abuse or neglect of children.

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

SECTION 1. (a) The state bar, under rules adopted by the supreme court, shall provide judicial training related to abuse, including sexual abuse, or neglect of children.

(b) The training must emphasize statutory and case law relating to videotaping a child's testimony and relating to competency of children to testify.

(c) The training must include information relating to methods for eliminating the trauma to the child caused by the court process.

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 April 15, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate on May 22, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 17, 1987.

Effective Aug. 31, 1987, 90 days after date of adjournment.