

# 13<sup>th</sup> Biennial Sampson, Tindall & England's Family Law Legislative Update

Presented by  
The University of Texas School of Law  
Continuing Legal Education

UTCLE  
June 18, 2015

1

## Program Faculty

- ▶ John J. Sampson
- ▶ Harry L. Tindall
- ▶ Angela Pence England
- ▶ Barry J. Brooks
- ▶ Charles G. Childress

*Special thanks to Elizabeth G. Wood and Elizabeth H. Edwards for assisting in researching and editing the legislative materials for this presentation.*

2

## 84th Texas Legislative Session Overview

- ▶ Convened January 13, 2015
- ▶ Adjourned Since June 1, 2015
- ▶ 6,276 bills introduced
- ▶ 1,323 bills enrolled
- ▶ 21% passed in both House & Senate



3

## 2015 Family Code Headlines

- ▶ Sincerely Held Religious Beliefs- [SB 2065](#)
- ▶ Abortion restrictions - [HB 3994](#)
- ▶ Child Custody Evaluations - [HB 1449](#)
- ▶ Office of Child Representation - [HB 3003](#)
- ▶ Dental insurance for children - [SB 550](#)
- ▶ UIFSA for international cases - [HB 3538](#)
- ▶ Sunset legislation for Texas Department of Family and Protective Services - [SB 206](#)



4

# Family Code Changes 2001-2015

Legislative Session	Changes enacted by legislation	Changes suggested in all filed bills	Percentage of changes enacted
77 <sup>th</sup> (2001)	508	783	65%
78 <sup>th</sup> (2003)	364	819	44%
79 <sup>th</sup> (2005)	281	759	37%
80 <sup>th</sup> (2007)	375	928	40%
81 <sup>st</sup> (2009)	278	966	28%
82 <sup>nd</sup> (2011)	269	877	26%
83 <sup>rd</sup> (2013)	299	806	37%
84 <sup>th</sup> (2015)	1116	2497	45%

Since 2001, there has been 3998 changes to the Texas Family Code!  
"Changes" are additions, repeals, or amendments to the Family Code



5

## Family Code Amendments Compared to Other Codes

- ▶ Civil Practice & Remedies Code – 91 changes
- ▶ Estates Code – 235 changes
- ▶ Property Code – 200 changes
- ▶ **Family Code – 1116 changes**
- ▶ Penal Code – 148 changes



6

Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the [UT Law CLE eLibrary \(utcle.org/elibrary\)](http://utcle.org/elibrary)

## Title search: Family Law Legislative Update

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
13<sup>th</sup> Biennial Sampson, Tindall and England Family Law Legislative Update session  
"Family Law Legislative Update"