

By: Miles, West

S.B. No. 189

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a criminal offense concerning the failure of certain persons to report abuse, neglect, or exploitation in boarding home facilities.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 260, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 260.0091 to read as follows:

Sec. 260.0091. REQUIRED REPORT BY LESSOR OF ABUSE, NEGLECT, OR EXPLOITATION; CRIMINAL PENALTY. (a) A person commits an offense if the person:

(1) owns a building that the person leases to another person who operates a boarding home facility in the building;

(2) has actual knowledge that a resident of the boarding home facility is being or has been abused, neglected, or exploited; and

(3) fails to report the abuse, neglect, or exploitation to the Department of Family and Protective Services for investigation by that agency.

(b) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.