By: Hull, Collier, Slawson, Frank, Gates, et al.   H.B. No. 2070

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1   AN ACT

2 relating to individuals whose name may be added to the central child

3 abuse or neglect registry.

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

5   SECTION 1. Section 261.002, Family Code, is amended by

6 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

7   (a-1) The department may not add to the central registry

8 maintained under this section the name of an individual found by the

9 department to have abused or neglected a child unless:

10   (1) a court of competent jurisdiction enters a final

11 order in a civil, criminal, or juvenile proceeding in which the

12 court finds the individual abused or neglected the child; or

13   (2) the individual:

14   (A) is found to have abused or neglected a child

15 in a child-care facility or family home, as defined by Section

16 42.002, Human Resources Code;

17   (B) is found to have abused or neglected a child

18 in a public or private school;

19   (C) is found to have engaged in reportable

20 conduct that requires the individual's inclusion in the interagency

21 reportable conduct search engine results under Chapter 810, Health

22 and Safety Code;

23   (D) is found to have abused or neglected a child

24 while the child is in the conservatorship of the department; or

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1   (E) is found to have abused, assaulted,

2 neglected, or groomed a child while the child was on the premises of

3 a church or religious facility, or during church-related activities

4 off-site.

5   SECTION 2. Section 261.002(a-1), Family Code, as added by

6 this Act, applies only to a finding that an individual abused or

7 neglected a child made by the Department of Family and Protective

8 Services on or after the effective date of this Act. A finding made

9 by the department before that date is governed by the law in effect

10 on the date the finding was made, and the former law is continued in

11 effect for that purpose.

12   SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.