

By: West

S.B. No. 1526

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to reimbursing certain Department of Family and Protective Services employees for certain legal expenses.

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

SECTION 1. Section 40.060, Human Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 40.060. INDEMNIFICATION AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR LEGAL EXPENSES. (a) If a present or former employee of the department who is or was involved in activities relating to the protection of children or elderly persons or persons with disabilities is criminally prosecuted for conduct involving the person's misfeasance or nonfeasance in the course and scope of the person's employment and is found not guilty after a trial or appeal or if the complaint or indictment is dismissed without a plea of guilty or nolo contendere being entered, the department may indemnify the person or the person's estate for the reasonable attorney's fees incurred in defense of the prosecution up to a maximum of \$10,000.

(b) If a present employee of the department who is involved in activities relating to the protection of children or elderly persons or persons with disabilities seeks a protective or restraining order while in the course and scope of their employment with the department, the department may reimburse the person for the reasonable attorney's fees incurred in obtaining the protective or restraining order up to a maximum amount of \$5,000.

1 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
2 of this Act, the Department of Family and Protective Services shall
3 adopt rules to implement Section 40.060(b), Human Resources Code,
4 as added by this Act.

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