

By: Moody

H.B. No. 2652

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain investigations of reports of child abuse or neglect and procedures for foster homes after a report of abuse or neglect.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 42, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 42.0531 to read as follows:

Sec. 42.0531. PROCEDURES AFTER FINDING OF UNABLE TO DETERMINE ABUSE OR NEGLECT. (a) If, after investigating a report of abuse or neglect in a foster home, a foster group home, an agency foster home, or an agency foster group home, the department is unable to determine whether the alleged abuse or neglect occurred, the department shall require the home to submit a corrective action plan to identify and prevent future abuse or neglect.

(b) If, before the first anniversary of the date a foster home, a foster group home, an agency foster home, or an agency foster group home submits a corrective action plan under Subsection (a), another incident of abuse or neglect in the home is reported and the department is unable to determine whether the alleged abuse or neglect occurred, the home must go through the verification process again before a child may be placed in the home.

SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 261, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 261.317 to read as follows:

Sec. 261.317. LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATION FOLLOWING

1 DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATION. If, after investigating a report of
2 abuse or neglect, the department is unable to determine whether the
3 alleged abuse or neglect occurred, the department shall notify the
4 local law enforcement agency of its findings and the local law
5 enforcement agency shall conduct its own investigation of the
6 report of abuse or neglect.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.