

By: Farrar

H.B. No. 2485

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the investigation of allegations of abuse and neglect in a residential detention facility.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 261, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 261.411 to read as follows:

Sec. 261.411. INVESTIGATIONS IN RESIDENTIAL DETENTION FACILITIES. (a) This section applies only to a residential child-care facility that:

(1) is operated by or under a contract with United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement to enforce federal immigration laws; and

(2) detains children.

(b) The Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt rules relating to the commission's investigation of allegations of abuse or neglect in a residential child-care facility described by Subsection (a).

(c) The rules must require the commission to:

(1) immediately investigate an allegation of abuse or neglect of a child detained in a residential child-care facility described by Subsection (a);

(2) communicate with the child who is the alleged victim of the abuse or neglect and the alleged victim's family; and

(3) ensure the alleged victim is provided

1 opportunities to communicate with the victim's parent, guardian, or
2 another family member.

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.