87R4808 MLH-F

By:  Minjarez H.B. No. 1009

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to reporting the serious bodily injury of a child; providing a criminal penalty.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 261.101, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1)  A person shall immediately make a report as provided by this subchapter if the person knows that:

(1)  a child suffered a serious bodily injury, as defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code; and

(2)  the serious bodily injury was caused by abuse or neglect.

SECTION 2.  Section 261.109, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-2) and (b-1) to read as follows:

(a-2)  A person commits an offense if the person is required to make a report under Section 261.101(a-1) and knowingly fails to make a report as provided in this chapter.

(b-1)  An offense under Subsection (a-2) is a state jail felony unless it is shown on the trial of the offense that the child was younger than seven years of age and died as a result of the serious bodily injury, in which event the offense is a third degree felony.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.