87R4628 EAS-D

By:  Miles S.B. No. 503

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to creating the criminal offense of failing to report abuse, neglect, or exploitation in boarding home facilities in certain counties and municipalities.

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

SECTION 1.  Chapter 260, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 260.0091 to read as follows:

Sec. 260.0091.  REPORTING OF ABUSE, NEGLECT, OR EXPLOITATION IN CERTAIN COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES; CRIMINAL PENALTY. (a) This section applies only to a county or municipality that does not require a person to obtain a permit from the county or municipality to operate a boarding home facility, as authorized by Section 260.004.

(b)  A person commits an offense if the person:

(1)  leases to another a building owned by the person that is being operated as a boarding home facility in a county or municipality to which this section applies;

(2)  has actual knowledge that a resident of the boarding home facility is being or has been abused, neglected, or exploited; and

(3)  fails to report the abuse, neglect, or exploitation to the Department of Family and Protective Services for investigation by that agency.

(c)  An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.