

By: A. Johnson of Harris

H.B. No. 1504

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to juveniles committed to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

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

SECTION 1. Section 59.009(a), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) For a child at sanction level six, the juvenile court may commit the child to the custody of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department ~~[or a post-adjudication secure correctional facility under Section 54.04011(c)(1)]~~. The department~~[, juvenile board, or local juvenile probation department, as applicable,]~~ may:

(1) require the child to participate in a highly structured residential program that emphasizes discipline, accountability, fitness, training, and productive work for not less than nine months or more than 24 months unless the department reduces or ~~[, board, or probation department]~~ extends the period and the reason for the reduction or ~~[an]~~ extension is documented;

(2) require the child to make restitution to the victim of the child's conduct or perform community service restitution appropriate to the nature and degree of the harm caused and according to the child's ability, if there is a victim of the child's conduct;

(3) require the child and the child's parents or guardians to participate in programs and services for their

1 particular needs and circumstances; and

2 (4) if appropriate, impose additional sanctions.

3 SECTION 2. Section 244.003(b), Human Resources Code, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 (b) Except as provided by Section 243.051(c), these records  
6 and all other information concerning a child, including personally  
7 identifiable information, are not public and are available only:

8 (1) according to the provisions of Section 58.005,  
9 Family Code, Section 244.051 of this code, and Chapter 67, Code of  
10 Criminal Procedure; or

11 (2) to an individual or entity assisting the  
12 department in providing transition planning and reentry services to  
13 the child, as determined by the department.

14 SECTION 3. Section 245.054(a), Human Resources Code, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (a) In addition to providing the court with notice of  
17 release of a child under Section 245.051(b), as soon as possible but  
18 not later than the 10th [~~30th~~] day before the date the department  
19 releases the child, the department shall provide the court that  
20 committed the child to the department:

21 (1) a copy of the child's reentry and reintegration  
22 plan developed under Section 245.0535; and

23 (2) a report concerning the progress the child has  
24 made while committed to the department.

25 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act to Section  
26 59.009(a), Family Code, do not apply to a child committed to a  
27 post-adjudication secure correctional facility under former

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1 Section 54.04011(c)(1), Family Code, and the former law is  
2 continued in effect for a child committed to the facility.

3 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.