

By: Huffman

S.B. No. 1019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the admissibility of certain hearsay statements in the adjudication of certain sexual or assaultive offenses committed against a child or a person with a disability.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 54.031(a) and (d), Family Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) This section applies to a hearing under this title in which a child is alleged to be a delinquent child on the basis of a violation of any of the following provisions of the Penal Code, if a child 18 ~~[12]~~ years of age or younger or a person with a disability is the alleged victim of the violation:

(1) Chapter 21 (Sexual Offenses) or 22 (Assaultive Offenses);

(2) Section 25.02 (Prohibited Sexual Conduct);

(3) Section 43.25 (Sexual Performance by a Child);

(4) Section 20A.02(a)(7) or (8) (Trafficking of Persons); or

(5) Section 43.05(a)(2) (Compelling Prostitution).

(d) In this section, "person with a disability" has the same meaning as "disabled individual" as defined by Section 22.04, Penal Code ~~[means a person 13 years of age or older who because of age or physical or mental disease, disability, or injury is substantially unable to protect the person's self from harm or to provide food,~~

1 ~~shelter, or medical care for the person's self]~~.

2       SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply to a  
3 case in a juvenile court that commences on or after the effective  
4 date of this Act. A case that commences before the effective date of  
5 this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the case  
6 commenced, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
7 purpose.

8       SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.