

## BILL SUMMARY

1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 60<sup>th</sup> Legislature

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Bill No.:</b>       | <b>HB1863</b>       |
| <b>Version:</b>        | <b>CS</b>           |
| <b>Request Number:</b> | <b>12957</b>        |
| <b>Author:</b>         | <b>Rep. Roberts</b> |
| <b>Date:</b>           | <b>2/27/2025</b>    |
| <b>Impact:</b>         | <b>\$0</b>          |

### Research Analysis

The committee substitute for HB 1863 increases the punishment for a person or agency who knowingly permits, assists, or encourages the release, disclosure, or use of confidential records of information for any commercial political or unauthorized purpose to up to 12 months in jail and/or a fine of \$5,000. The measure also provides that each multidisciplinary child abuse team review cases involving child sexual abuse or physical abuse or neglect review than intervene in reports. The measure also provides that these teams develop a written protocol for joint investigation of cases by law enforcement and child welfare staff as well as formalize a case review process that uses a secure database. If an investigation is allowed to proceed without full participation of all personnel, a joint investigation must be initiated as soon as possible thereafter. Additionally, for freestanding multidisciplinary child abuse teams, staff of the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth will conduct on-site compliance reviews as necessary.

Last, the measure requires the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth to provide for the creation and maintenance of a secure database that will be used by freestanding multidisciplinary child abuse teams during case review. The database will collect case information and maintain strict security as well as be subject to confidential records requirements. The Commission must promulgate rules as necessary.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach, House Research Staff

### Fiscal Analysis

The committee substitute to HB 1863 amends the Oklahoma Children's Code to increase penalties for individuals or agencies that discloses confidential records related to child abuse investigations. The fine for violations increases from Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) and the jail sentence from six (6) months to twelve (12) months. The increase in fines is not anticipated to have a significant impact on state revenue.

Additionally, the measure directs the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY) to provide a database that will support case management and facilitate information sharing across all agencies involved in child abuse investigations. OCCY officials confirmed that no additional resources will be needed to carry out the requirements of the measure, as the database referenced already exists. Funding for its development has been provided over previous years, and an annual appropriation of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for maintenance is included in the agency's base budget as of FY-25. As a result, the provisions of this measure will not require additional appropriations or impact the FY-26 state budget.

Prepared By: Alexandra Ladner, House Fiscal Staff

**Other Considerations**

None.

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