

**Bill Summary**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 870</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>CS</b>
<b>Request No.:</b>	<b>1794</b>
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**Bill Analysis**

SB 870 creates the Accountability, Transparency, and Protection for Exploited Youth Act. The measure requires employees and contractors of a state-run juvenile facility, private contractor, or group home under the supervision of the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) to report any form of sexual misconduct or exploitation between staff, volunteers, or contractors with juveniles. The reports shall be filed with the facility supervisor and the Office of Juvenile Affairs' Independent Oversight Committee (IOC). Individuals who fail to report such incidents shall be guilty of a felony and subject to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 2 years and/or a maximum fine of \$5,000.00. Such persons as well as the OJA and the contracted entity shall also be held civilly liable. Failure to properly train employees shall also subject the OJA and the contracted entity to liability. Investigation reports shall be forwarded to the district attorney in the district where the abuse took place. The measure grants certain parties access to files and records of cases relating to allegations or findings of physical or sexual violence against a minor in custody. Such access shall be limited to files and records directly related to the incident of sexual violence. All parties with such access shall be bound by confidentiality requirements and shall not further disclose the records except as necessary for legal proceedings or investigations.

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