BILL SUMMARY 1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 870
Version:	ENGR
Request Number:	
Author:	Williams
Date:	4/8/2025
Impact: Please see previous summary of this measure	

Research Analysis

The engrossed version of SB870 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 must be filed with the facility supervisor and the Office of Juvenile Affairs' Independent Oversight Committee (IOC). Individuals who fail to report such incidents will 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 will also be held civilly liable, facing possible civil fines of up to \$50,000. Failure to properly train employees will also subject the OJA and the contracted entity to liability. Investigation reports must 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 will be limited to files and records directly related to the incident of sexual violence. All parties with such access will be bound by confidentiality requirements and must not further disclose the records except as necessary for legal proceedings or investigations

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach, House Research Staff

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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