

SUBJECT:	Creating an offense for certain failures to report abuse or neglect
COMMITTEE:	Human Services — favorable, without amendment
VOTE:	6 ayes — Frank, Rose, Manuel, Noble, Ramos, Shaheen 0 nays 3 absent — Campos, Hull, Klick
SENATE VOTE:	On final passage (April 20) — 31 - 0
WITNESSES:	For — Laurie Christensen, Harris County Fire Marshal; Jeremy Sanchez, Harris County Sheriffs Office (<i>Registered, but did not testify</i> : Andrea Earl, AARP TX; Dennis Borel, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities; Paul Sugg, Harris County Commissioners Court; David Batton, Harris County Deputies Organization FOP 39; Erica Nunn, Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman; Rebecca Japko, PART) Against — None
BACKGROUND:	Concerns have been raised that building owners who are aware of cases of abuse, neglect, or exploitation at boarding home facilities operated by the owner's lessee may not always report these cases.
DIGEST:	SB 189 would establish that a person would commit a class A misdemeanor (up to one year in jail and/or a maximum fine of \$4,000) if the person: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• owned a building that the person leased to another person who operated a boarding home facility in the building;• had actual knowledge that a boarding home facility resident was being or had been abused, neglected, or exploited; and• failed to report the abuse, neglect, or exploitation to the Department of Family and Protective Services for investigation.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023.