

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

C.S.S.B. 625
By: Whitmire
Criminal Justice
4-1-97
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST

Currently, information about juveniles is kept confidential. Under certain circumstances, this information should be released. This bill will authorize the Department of Public Safety to disseminate certain information about a juvenile offender who has escaped from the custody of the Texas Youth Commission if it is necessary to protect the public welfare.

PURPOSE

As proposed, C.S.S.B. 625 authorizes the Department of Public Safety to disseminate certain information about a juvenile offender who has escaped from the custody of the Texas Youth Commission if it is necessary to protect the public welfare.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 58.106, Family Code, by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c), to provide that, except as otherwise provided by this section, information contained in the juvenile justice information system is confidential information. Authorizes the Department of Public Safety, if necessary to protect the welfare of the community, to disseminate to the public certain information relating to a juvenile offender who has escaped the custody of the Texas Youth Commission.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act retroactive.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

SECTION 1.

Amends Section 58.106(c)(4), Family Code, to change the phrase "was sentenced to commitment" to "was committed."