BILL SUMMARY 1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.: Version: Request Number: Author: Date: Impact:

HB2798 SAHB

Rep. Hasenbeck 5/15/2025 AOC: Budget Neutral DOC: Minimal

Research Analysis

The Senate Amendments to HB 2798 specify that the measure applies to superintendents or school administrators for both public and private school districts. SAHB also adds that the felony will be punishable by imprisonment not less than two years but no more than 10 years.

HB 2798 provides that any superintendent or school administrator that knowingly and willfully fails to promptly report or interferes with the prompt reporting of child abuse or neglect will be, upon conviction, guilty of a felony. Such felony will be punishable by imprisonment of at least two years but not more than ten and/or by a fine of at least \$20,000 as well as community service. The measure also adds sexual battery to the list of what counts as child abuse and neglect within this statute.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach, House Research Staff

Fiscal Analysis

HB2798 modifies provisions related to the duty to report certain instances of child abuse or neglect, and sets forth penalties for such cases. Penalties in these cases range from a fine of \$0-\$20,000, imprisonment not less than 2 years, or both such fine and imprisonment. Any change to the revenues collected by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) or change in the costs incurred by the Department of Corrections (DOC) are expected to be immaterial and/or absorbed by the agency. Therefore, in its current form, HB2798 is anticipated to be budget neutral.

The SAHB does not change the fiscal impact of the measure as described above.

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Other Considerations

None.

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