1-1 By: Middleton S.B. No. 1524 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 21, 2025; March 6, 2025, 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human 1-4 Services; April 14, 2025, reported favorably by the following 1-5 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 3; April 14, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE 1-7 Yea Nav Absent PNV 1-8 Kolkhorst Х 1-9 Perry Х 1-10 1-11 Blanco Х Cook χ 1-12 Hall Х 1-13 Hancock Х Χ 1-14 Hughes 1**-**15 1**-**16 Miles Х Sparks

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

1-19 relating to the collection and confidentiality of information 1-20 regarding weapons in agency foster homes; creating a civil penalty. 1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 42.042, Human Resources Code, is amended 1-23 by adding Subsections (e-6), (e-7), (e-8), and (e-9) to read as 1-24 follows:

1-25 (e-6) The commission, the department, and a child-placing 1-26 agency that contracts with the department may not require an agency 1-27 foster home to:

1-27 foster home to: 1-28 (1) disclose the specific types of weapons, including 1-29 firearms, that are present in the home; or

1-30 (2) notify the child-placing agency if there is any 1-31 change in the types of weapons, including firearms, that are 1-32 present in the home.

1-33 (e-7) If the commission, the department, or a child-placing 1-34 agency that contracts with the department has or obtains 1-35 information relating to the types of weapons, including firearms, 1-36 that are present in an agency foster home, the commission, 1-37 department, or child-placing agency may not use that information 1-38 for any purpose other than determining whether there are weapons 1-39 present in the home.

1-40 (e-8) A child-placing agency that violates Subsection (e-7) 1-41 is liable to the state for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed 1-42 \$5,000 for each violation. The attorney general may bring an action 1-43 to recover a civil penalty authorized under this subsection.

1-44 (e-9) Information relating to the types of weapons, 1-45 including firearms, that are present in an agency foster home is 1-46 confidential and is not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, 1-47 Government Code.

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3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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