

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill enhances penalties for criminal neglect of a vulnerable adult committed by a family member who has responsibility for the care of the vulnerable adult.

Section

1 **Crime.** Provides that a caregiver or operator who intentionally neglects a vulnerable adult or knowingly permits conditions to exist that result in the abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult may be sentenced as provided in section 2.

2 **Penalties.**

Para. (a). Provides that a caregiver or operator who violates section 1 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor (except as provided in paragraph (b)).

Para. (b). Provides that a caregiver, who is an individual and has responsibility for the care of a vulnerable adult as a result of a family relationship, may be sentenced to: (1) a five-year felony if neglect results in substantial bodily harm or the risk of death, or (2) a ten-year felony if neglect results in death.