

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

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**Action:** Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference

**Vote:** 8 - 0 - 2

**Yeas:** Bruun, Cannon, Dembrow, Garrett, Harker, Maurer, Thompson, Greenlick

**Nays:** 0

**Exc.:** Kennemer, Kotek

**Prepared By:** Roxie Cuellar, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 5/22

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Adds audiologists, speech language pathologists, psychologists, or providers of adult foster care or their employees to list of those who must report elderly abuse. Psychiatrists and psychologists are exempt from reporting requirements if they receive the information under patient privilege. Adds osteopathic physicians, physician assistants, naturopathetic physician, podiatric physician, surgeon, nurse practitioner, nurse's aide, physical, speech or occupational therapist, audiologist, speech language pathologist, home health aide and employee of an in-home health service to list of those who must report child abuse.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Inclusion of health care personnel
- Subsequent committee referral

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Currently, any public or private official having reasonable cause to believe that any person 65 years of age or older or a person under the age of 18 with whom the official comes in contact, while acting in his or her official capacity, had been abused must report the abuse to the Department of Human Services (DHS) or a law enforcement agency within the county where the abuse took place. "Public or private official" is defined to include physicians, chiropractors, licensed nurses and nurse's aids, employees of DHS, peace officers, clergy, and firefighters among others.