CS/HB 361 — Persons Authorized to Visit Juvenile Facilities

by Criminal Justice Subcommittee and Reps. Richardson, Stafford, and others (CS/SB 1004 by Criminal Justice Committee and Senator Brandes)

The bill authorizes the following persons to visit between the hours of 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. all facilities housing juveniles that are operated or overseen by the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) or a county:

- The Governor;
- A Cabinet member;
- A member of the Legislature;
- A judge of a state court;
- A state attorney;
- A public defender; and
- A person authorized by the secretary of the DJJ.

The bill requires the DJJ to make rules for purposes of implementing the bill, including rules pertaining to visitation of a state facility housing juveniles between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. by a person specified in the bill.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2018. *Vote: Senate 37-0; House 113-0*