HB 647 -- Missing and Deceased Children Reports

Sponsor: Schieffer

This bill establishes Caylee's Law which requires any parent, guardian, or legal custodian to submit a missing child report on any child of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian whose whereabouts are unknown to the appropriate law enforcement agency within 24 hours of his or her discovery of the child's unknown whereabouts. The law enforcement agency must forward the missing child report to the State Highway Patrol. Any parent, guardian, or legal custodian who violates these provisions will be guilty of the crime of endangering the welfare of a child in the second degree, a class A misdemeanor, unless death or serious injury to the child occurs as a result of or during the time the child is missing in which case it will be a class B felony.

The bill requires any parent, guardian, or legal custodian who discovers the dead body of or acquires the first knowledge of the death of his or her child who is under 17 years of age to notify, within one hour, the appropriate law enforcement agency. The notification must include any known facts concerning the time, place, manner, and circumstances of the death. Any person who violates these provisions will be guilty of the crime of abandonment of a corpse, a class D felony.