

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

C.S.S.B. 360  
By: Deuell  
Civil Practices  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Under current Texas law, chambers of commerce are not included in the definition of charitable organizations in the Civil Practice and Remedies Code. Under this arrangement, members of a chamber of commerce could be liable for actions of the chamber.

As proposed, C.S.S.B. 360 amends the Civil Practice and Remedies Code to add certain chambers of commerce to the definition of charitable organization and make members of such chambers of commerce exempt from certain civil actions.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

CSSB 360 amends Subdivision (1), Section 84.003, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, by adding Subdivision (E) to add a local chamber of commerce that meets certain requirements to the definition of "charitable organization."

CSSB 360 amends Section 84.007, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, by adding Subsection (h) to exempt a statewide trade association that represents local chambers of commerce or a cosponsor of an event with a local chamber of commerce from this chapter, unless the cosponsor is a charitable organization under this chapter.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2003

### **COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL TO SUBSTITUTE**

The substitute exempts a statewide trade association that represents local chambers of commerce.