

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1211  
By: Fraser  
State Affairs  
9/15/2009  
Enrolled

### **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The Charitable Immunity and Liability Act of 1987 provides that a volunteer health care provider who is serving as a direct service volunteer of a charitable organization is immune from civil liability for any act or omission resulting in injury to a patient under certain circumstances. The statute defines "volunteer health care provider" to include certain medical professionals, including physicians and dentists. However, speech-language pathologists and audiologists are not included in the definition.

S.B. 1211 amends Section 84.003 (Definitions), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, to redefine "volunteer health care provider" to include speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 84.003(5), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, to redefine "volunteer health care provider" to include an audiologist, assistant in audiology, speech-language pathologist, or assistant in speech-language pathology licensed under Chapter 401 (Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists), or a retired audiologist, assistant in audiology, speech-language pathologist, or assistant in speech-language pathology who is eligible to provide health care services under this laws of this state.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2009.