

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 1184  
By: Thompson, Senfronia  
Licensing & Administrative Procedures  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Interested parties assert that in recent years the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) sent a cease and desist letter to Illinois Tool Works, manufacturers of certain steam cookers. The letter required the company to remove certain models of steam cookers from Texas or to modify them to comply with Texas law. These steam cookers in question, however, report a zero incident safety record, and TDLR acknowledges that the units pose no threat to public safety. These parties assert that TDLR and Illinois Tool Works have worked together to develop legislation that would exempt safe steam cookers from the regulation normally used for much larger boiler units. Concern has been raised that if current law is not changed, TDLR will be required to send cease and desist letters to many other manufacturers of similar products, many of which are used in school cafeterias as an economical way to prepare food for students. H.B. 1184 seeks to address these concerns by exempting such steam cookers from certain boiler regulations.

### **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**

H.B. 1184 amends the Health and Safety Code to exempt a steam cooker, defined by the bill as a steam heating boiler that is designed to steam cook food and that is operated at and equipped with a safety appliance operated at a pressure not exceeding five pounds per square inch, from statutory provisions requiring the registration, certification, and inspection of boilers.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2013.