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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| H.B. 1544 |
| By: Burkett |
| Public Health |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE** Interested parties contend that the ability of a client who is involved in a complaint against a hearing instrument fitter and dispenser to access the client's records would be just and beneficial. H.B. 1544 seeks to ensure such access.  |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **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. 1544 amends the Occupations Code to require the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) on request to provide a copy of a hearing instrument fitter and dispenser license holder's confidential records obtained by TDLR in connection with a complaint and investigation to a person who is or was a client of the license holder if the records pertain to that person and the person is or was involved in a complaint against the license holder. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE** September 1, 2017. |