Chapter 617

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1 AN ACT 2 relating to educational requirements for licensing as а speech-language pathologist or audiologist. 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: 4 5 SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 401.304, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows: 6 7 (a) To be eligible for licensing as a speech-language 8 pathologist or audiologist, an applicant must: 9 (1) <u>if the application is for a license in:</u> 10 (A) speech-language pathology, possess at least 11 a master's degree with a major in at least one of the areas of 12 communicative sciences or disorders from a program accredited by <u>a</u> 13 national accrediting organization that is approved by the board and recognized by the United States secretary of education under the 14 15 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. Section 1001 et seq.) [the 16 American Speech-Language-Hearing Accordation] in an accredited or 17 approved college or university; or (B) audiology, possess at least a doctoral degree 18 19 in audiology or a related hearing science from a program accredited 20 by a national accrediting organization that is approved by the 21 board and recognized by the United States secretary of education 22 under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. Section 1001 et 23 seq.) in an accredited or approved college or university; submit a transcript from a public or private 24 (2)

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<u>S.B. No. 613</u> institution of higher learning showing successful completion of 1 2 course work in amounts set by the board in: 3 (A) normal development and use of speech, language, and hearing; 4 5 (B) evaluation, habilitation, and rehabilitation 6 of speech, language, and hearing disorders; and 7 (C) related fields that augment the work of 8 clinical practitioners of speech-language pathology and audiology; 9 have successfully completed at least 36 semester (3) 10 hours in courses that are acceptable toward a graduate degree by the 11 college or university in which the courses are taken, at least 24 of 12 which must be in the professional area for which the license is requested and at least six of which must be: 13 14 (A) in audiology if the application is for a speech-language pathology license; or 15 16 (B) in speech-language pathology if the application is for an audiology license; 17 18 (4) have completed the minimum number of hours, established by the board, of supervised clinical experience with 19 20 persons who present a variety of communication disorders; and 21 (5) have completed full-time the supervised 22 professional experience, as defined by board rule, in which clinical work has been accomplished in the major professional area 23 for which the license is being sought. 24 SECTION 2. Section 401.304, (a) Occupations Code, 86

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25 SECTION 2. (a) Section 401.304, Occupations Code, as 26 amended by this Act, applies only to a person who applies for a 27 speech-language pathologist or audiologist license on or after the

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effective date of this Act. A person who applies for a license
before that date is governed by the law in effect immediately before
the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in
effect for that purpose.

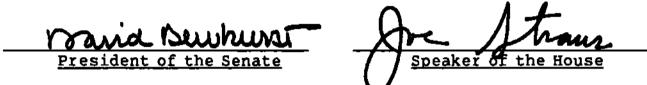
5 (b) A person who holds a license as an audiologist issued 6 before the effective date of this Act may continue to renew that 7 license without complying with the change in law made by this Act to 8 Subsection (a), Section 401.304, Occupations Code.

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SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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<u>I hereby certify</u> that S.B. No. 613 passed the Senate on April 21, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary 6 he genate

<u>I hereby certify</u> that S.B. No. 613 passed the House on May 19, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 148, Nays O, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk the Ho Ô. se

Approved: proveu. 17 Jun 1/ <u>Date</u> Governo

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