



## 2005 SENATE BILL 544

February 1, 2006 - Introduced by Senators ROBSON, ROESSLER, BROWN, COGGS, MILLER, RISSER, TAYLOR and WIRCH, cosponsored by Representatives SEIDEL, BENEDICT, BERCEAU, FIELDS, GUNDERSON, HAHN, LEHMAN, MCCORMICK, SHERIDAN and YOUNG. Referred to Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging and Long Term Care.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 146.89 (1) of the statutes; **relating to:** expanding types of  
2             volunteer health care providers to include pharmacists and pharmacy  
3             technicians.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under the Volunteer Health Care Provider Program (VHCPP) in current law, health care services of a volunteer health care provider and a nonprofit agency whose joint application is approved by the Department of Administration must be provided without charge primarily to low-income persons who are uninsured and, except for the provision of certain dental and dental hygiene services to Medical Assistance (MA) recipients, are not recipients of MA or Medicare Program benefits. Volunteer health care providers include physicians, dentists, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, nurse-midwives, optometrists, and physician assistants. These volunteers are, for the provision of services under the VHCPP, state agents of the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS).

Under current law, for a person with status as a state agent of DHFS, the attorney general may, if requested by the secretary of health and family services, appear and defend the person in any civil action or other matter brought before a court as the result of an act committed in the lawful course of the agent's duties. In addition, a civil action or civil proceeding against a state agent for an act committed in the course of the discharge of the agent's duties may not be brought unless the claimant serves on the attorney general written notice within 120 days of the event that caused injury, damage, or death. Lastly, judgments in excess of any insurance

