

By: Talton

H.B. No. 826

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the licensure of certain attorneys licensed to practice
3 law in other jurisdictions to practice law in Texas.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 82.036, Government Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 82.036. FOREIGN ATTORNEYS. (a) The supreme court
8 shall make such rules and regulations as to admitting attorneys
9 from other jurisdictions to practice law in this state as it shall
10 deem proper and just. All such attorneys shall be required to
11 furnish satisfactory proof as to good moral character.

12 (b) The rules adopted under this section must allow an
13 attorney who is licensed to practice law in another state and whose
14 J.D. degree is based on study by correspondence to take the bar
15 examination and, on passing the examination, be admitted to
16 practice law in this state, if:

17 (1) the degree was awarded by a law school that is
18 authorized to award J.D. degrees based on study by correspondence
19 by the state in which the attorney is licensed;

20 (2) the attorney obtained the attorney's license from
21 the highest court of the state in which the attorney is licensed as
22 a result of passing the bar examination of that state;

23 (3) the attorney is in good standing with the
24 licensing authority of the state in which the attorney is licensed;

1 and

2 (4) the attorney is otherwise eligible to take the bar
3 examination.

4 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
5 of this Act, the Texas Supreme Court shall adopt rules to implement
6 Section 82.036, Government Code, as amended by this Act.

7 SECTION 3. Section 82.036, Government Code, as amended by
8 this Act, applies only to a person who files an application to take
9 the Texas bar examination or an application for admission to the
10 State Bar of Texas on or after September 1, 2005.

11 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.