

Amend HB 1973 on 3rd Reading by inserting the following appropriately numbered SECTION and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS accordingly:

SECTION _____. Section 155.1025(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The board shall adopt rules for expediting any application for a license under this subtitle made by a person who ~~[is licensed to practice medicine in another state or country and who]~~ submits an affidavit with the application stating that:

(1) the applicant intends to practice in a rural community~~[, as determined by the Office of Rural Community Affairs]~~; or

(2) the applicant~~+~~

~~(A) has requested and is eligible for an immigration visa waiver as described by Section 12.0127, Health and Safety Code, and~~

~~(B)]~~ intends to practice medicine in a medically underserved area or health professional shortage area, designated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, that has a current shortage of physicians.