

By: Howard of Travis

H.B. No. 1740

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the authorization of physicians and therapeutic
3 optometrists to dispense therapeutic contact lenses.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 551.003, Occupations Code, is amended by
6 adding Subdivision (42-a) to read as follows:

7 (42-a) "Therapeutic contact lens" means a contact lens
8 that contains one or more drugs and that delivers the drugs into the
9 wearer's eye.

10 SECTION 2. Section 551.004, Occupations Code, is amended by
11 adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

12 (e) This subtitle does not prevent a physician or
13 therapeutic optometrist from dispensing therapeutic contact
14 lenses. This subsection does not authorize a therapeutic
15 optometrist to prescribe, administer, or dispense a drug that is
16 otherwise outside the therapeutic optometrist's scope of practice.

17 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.