

By: Gonzales

H.B. No. 4437

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to examination requirements for certain applicants for a license to practice medicine.

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

SECTION 1. Section 155.051, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

(d) The time frame to pass each part of the examination does not apply to an applicant who:

(1) is licensed and in good standing as a physician in another state;

(2) has been licensed for at least five years;

(3) does not hold a medical license in the other state that has any restrictions, disciplinary orders, or probation;

(4) will practice in a medically underserved area or a health manpower shortage area, as those terms are defined by Section 157.052; and

(5) is credentialed by a public hospital, a federally qualified health center, a federally qualified health center look-alike, or a health care center primarily serving uninsured persons.

(e) The board may by rule establish a process to verify that a person, after meeting the requirements of Subsection (d), practices only in an area described by Subsection (d)(4).

SECTION 2. Section 155.056, Occupations Code, is amended by

1 adding Subsections (e) and (f) to read as follows:

2 (e) The limitation on examination attempts by an applicant
3 under Subsection (a) does not apply to an applicant who:

4 (1) is licensed and in good standing as a physician in
5 another state;

6 (2) has been licensed for at least five years;

7 (3) does not hold a medical license in the other state
8 that has any restrictions, disciplinary orders, or probation;

9 (4) will practice in a medically underserved area or a
10 health manpower shortage area, as those terms are defined by
11 Section 157.052; and

12 (5) is credentialed by a public hospital, a federally
13 qualified health center, a federally qualified health center
14 look-alike, or a health care center primarily serving uninsured
15 persons.

16 (f) The board may by rule establish a process to verify that
17 a person who, after meeting the requirements of Subsection (e),
18 practices only in an area described by Subsection (e)(4).

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