

By: Nelson, Shapleigh

S.B. No. 525

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to certain qualified alien physicians practicing medicine
3 in this state.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 12.0127, Health and
6 Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The department, in accordance with 8 U.S.C. Sections
8 1182 and 1184 [~~Section 1182(e), as amended, under exceptions~~
9 ~~provided by 8 U.S.C. Section 1184(1), as amended~~], may request
10 waiver of the foreign country residence requirement for a qualified
11 alien physician who agrees to practice medicine in accordance with
12 the federal waiver requirements, provided priority is given to an
13 area with [~~a medically underserved area or health professional~~
14 ~~shortage area, as designated by the United States Department of~~
15 ~~Health and Human Services, that has~~] a current shortage of
16 physicians.

17 SECTION 2. 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.