

1-1 By: Nelson S.B. No. 525
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 23, 2009; February 17, 2009,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human
1-4 Services; March 2, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; March 2, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to certain qualified alien physicians practicing medicine
1-9 in this state.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 12.0127, Health and
1-12 Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-13 (a) The department, in accordance with 8 U.S.C. Sections
1-14 1182 and 1184 [~~Section 1182(e), as amended, under exceptions~~
1-15 ~~provided by 8 U.S.C. Section 1184(1), as amended~~], may request
1-16 waiver of the foreign country residence requirement for a qualified
1-17 alien physician who agrees to practice medicine in accordance with
1-18 the federal waiver requirements, provided priority is given to an
1-19 area with [~~a medically underserved area or health professional~~
1-20 ~~shortage area, as designated by the United States Department of~~
1-21 ~~Health and Human Services, that has~~] a current shortage of
1-22 physicians.

1-23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-27 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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