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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

BY: Robert R. Dancy

1 Amend C.S.H.B. No. 5 (house committee printing) by adding the
2 following appropriately numbered SECTION to the bill and
3 renumbering the remaining SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

4 SECTION _____. Subchapter C, Chapter 111, Education Code, is
5 amended by adding Section 111.43 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 111.43. OPTOMETRY CAREER PROGRAM. (a) The university
7 may operate a summer program that prepares highly qualified,
8 economically disadvantaged junior-level, senior-level, and
9 postbaccalaureate students from any public or private institution
10 of higher education for advanced studies and a career in the field
11 of optometry. The program may include:

12 (1) courses in improvement of study skills and
13 Optometry Admission Test preparation courses;

14 (2) a review of selected undergraduate academic
15 courses that are prerequisites for admission to advanced degree
16 programs in optometry;

17 (3) academic courses that are designed to familiarize
18 students with the course work in advanced degree programs in
19 optometry;

20 (4) clinical work; and

21 (5) extracurricular activities, including observing
22 professionals in the field of optometry.

23 (b) To the extent practicable, and consistent with the
24 purposes of the program, the university shall operate the program
25 in a manner that may assist students to obtain course credit for the
26 program from their respective institutions of higher education.

27 (c) The university shall:

28 (1) recruit _____ eligible _____ undergraduate _____ or
29 postbaccalaureate students for admission to the program;

1 (2) establish an application process for admitting
2 eligible undergraduate or postbaccalaureate students to the
3 program;

4 (3) develop reasonable requirements for admission to
5 the program;

6 (4) monitor the implementation of the program; and

7 (5) assist in developing services, including career
8 counseling, to support and encourage the pursuit of advanced
9 studies and careers in the field of optometry.

10 (d) The university may solicit and accept gifts and grants
11 from any public or private source for the purposes of this section.

12 The legislature may appropriate money for the purposes of this
13 section.