

By: Zerwas

H.B. No. 2656

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to limiting the authority of certain foreign private
3 postsecondary educational institutions to grant or award
4 professional degrees or offer courses toward those degrees.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 61.3062 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 61.3062. LIMITATION ON CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY FOR
9 FOREIGN INSTITUTION OFFERING PROFESSIONAL DEGREES. (a)

10 Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, the board
11 may not issue a certificate of authority allowing a private
12 postsecondary educational institution to grant or award a
13 professional degree, offer courses toward a professional degree, or
14 make any claims regarding a student's ability to apply course
15 credits from the institution toward a professional degree if:

16 (1) the institution is incorporated or otherwise
17 formally organized outside the United States or has its principal
18 office or primary educational facilities outside the United States;
19 and

20 (2) any education-related activities of the
21 institution in this state would impair the availability of clinical
22 positions, internships, or other professional learning
23 opportunities to graduates of other professional schools in this
24 state.

1 (b) In this section, "professional degree" includes the
2 following degrees:

- 3 (1) Doctor of Medicine (MD);
4 (2) Doctor of Osteopathy (DO);
5 (3) Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS);
6 (4) Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM);
7 (5) Juris Doctor (JD); or
8 (6) Bachelor of Laws (LLB).

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.