

By: Gervin-Hawkins

H.B. No. 2844

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the licensure in this state of certain attorneys who are licensed to practice law in another state.

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

SECTION 1. Section 82.036, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 82.036. FOREIGN ATTORNEYS. (a) The supreme court shall make such rules and regulations as to admitting attorneys from other jurisdictions to practice law in this state as it shall deem proper and just. All such attorneys shall be required to furnish satisfactory proof as to good moral character.

(b) The rules adopted under this section must allow an attorney licensed to practice law in another state of the United States to be admitted to practice law in this state without examination if the attorney:

(1) has been actively and substantially engaged in the practice of law in the other jurisdiction for at least five of the last seven years immediately preceding the date the attorney filed the application for a license to practice law in this state, regardless of whether the attorney previously failed a bar examination in this state; and

(2) is otherwise eligible for admission to practice law without examination.

SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date

1 of this Act, the Texas Supreme Court shall adopt rules to implement  
2 Section 82.036, Government Code, as amended by this Act.

3 SECTION 3. Section 82.036, Government Code, as amended by  
4 this Act, applies only to a person who files an application for  
5 admission to the State Bar of Texas on or after September 1, 2019.

6 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.