

By: Sheffield

H.B. No. 4003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
3 Board concerning a shortage of primary care physicians in this
4 state.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 61.088 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 61.088. STUDY REGARDING PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN
9 SHORTAGE. (a) The board shall conduct a study regarding methods to
10 mitigate or prevent a shortage in the number of primary care
11 physicians practicing in this state. The study:

12 (1) must include an analysis of whether requiring or
13 incentivizing graduate medical education programs to increase the
14 number of first-year residency positions leading to a medical
15 specialty in family practice or primary care to 50 percent of
16 first-year residency positions offered by the program will
17 positively impact the number of physicians who practice primary
18 care in this state; and

19 (2) may include an analysis of the feasibility of
20 providing additional funding for medical residencies for rural and
21 community-based hospital family practice and primary care
22 positions, including by providing funding for the repayment of
23 student loans for physicians under Subchapter J.

24 (b) Not later than December 1, 2020, the board shall submit

1 to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the
2 house of representatives a report on the results of the study and
3 any recommendations for legislative or other action.

4 (c) This section expires September 1, 2021.

5 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.