

By: Morrison

H.B. No. 3254

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 451.001(3), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(3) "Athletic training" means the form of health care that is provided [~~includes the practice of preventing, recognizing, assessing, managing, treating, disposing of, and reconditioning athletic injuries~~] under the direction or delegated authority of a physician licensed in this state and includes:

(A) managing the risk of injury or illness;

(B) preventing injury or illness;

(C) assessing an injury or illness;

(D) providing immediate emergency care and therapeutic intervention for an injury or illness;

(E) reconditioning an injury or illness; and

(F) administering other health care [~~or another qualified, licensed health professional who is authorized to refer for health care services within the scope of the person's license~~].

SECTION 2. Section 451.153(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) An applicant for an athletic trainer license must:

(1) have met the athletic training curriculum requirements of a college or university approved by the commission

1 and give proof of graduation;

2 (2) hold a degree or certificate in physical therapy
3 and have completed:

4 (A) a basic athletic training course from an
5 accredited college or university; and

6 (B) an apprenticeship described by Subsection
7 (b); ~~or~~

8 (3) have a degree in corrective therapy with at least a
9 minor in physical education or health that includes a basic
10 athletic training course and meet the apprenticeship requirement or
11 any other requirement established by the commission;

12 (4) have completed, or have 30 credit hours or less
13 remaining to complete, the athletic training curriculum
14 requirements of a college or university that is accredited by a
15 nationally recognized athletic training accrediting organization
16 and approved by the board; or

17 (5) have completed, or have 30 credit hours or less
18 remaining to complete, a baccalaureate degree or postbaccalaureate
19 degree from a college or university that requires:

20 (A) not fewer than 24 credit hours related to the
21 practice of athletic training; and

22 (B) completion of an apprenticeship program in
23 athletic training clinical practice consisting of not fewer than
24 1,800 hours completed over the course of not fewer than five
25 separate semesters, at least 1,500 hours of which must be completed
26 while the applicant is a student at the college or university.

27 SECTION 3. Section 451.001(1), Occupations Code, is

1 repealed.

2 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act to Section
3 [451.153](#), Occupations Code, apply only to an application for an
4 original athletic trainer license submitted on or after the
5 effective date of this Act. An application for an original athletic
6 trainer license submitted before the effective date of this Act is
7 governed by the law in effect on the date the application was
8 submitted, and the former law is continued in effect for that
9 purpose.

10 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.