By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 918

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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- 2 relating to the licensing and regulation of orthotists and
- 3 prosthetists.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Section 605.254, Occupations Code, is amended to
- 6 read as follows:
- 7 Sec. 605.254. EXEMPTIONS FROM OR SUBSTITUTES FOR LICENSE
- 8 REQUIREMENTS. (a) The commission by rule may exempt a [A] person
- 9 [is entitled to an exemption] from one or more of the academic,
- 10 clinical training, or examination [the license] requirements
- 11 established under Section 605.252.
- 12 (b) To be eligible for an exemption under Subsection (a),
- 13 [if] the person must present [presents] evidence satisfactory to
- 14 the department that the person possesses unique qualifications to
- 15 practice orthotics, prosthetics, or orthotics and prosthetics.
- 16 (c) The department shall issue a license <u>under Section</u>
- 17 605.256(b) to a person who:
- 18 (1) is determined to be eligible for an exemption $[\frac{1}{4}]$
- 19 <u>license</u>] under <u>this section from a requirement established under</u>
- 20 Section 605.252; and
- 21 (2) meets all requirements provided under this
- 22 chapter, other than any requirement for which an exemption is
- 23 granted under Subdivision (1) [Subsection (a)].
- 24 (d) A person holding a license for which an exemption was

- 1 granted under this section [to whom a license is issued under this
- 2 subsection] is entitled to the same license privileges as if the
- 3 person met <u>all</u> [the educational and vocational] requirements of
- 4 Section 605.252. The license holder is subject to the license
- 5 renewal requirements established by the commission, other than the
- 6 [academic, clinical training, and examination] requirements
- 7 <u>exempted under this section</u>, which the commission may not impose as
- 8 a condition of the person's license renewal.
- 9 SECTION 2. Section 605.254, Occupations Code, as amended by
- 10 this Act, applies only to a license application submitted on or
- 11 after the effective date of this Act. An application for a license
- 12 submitted before the effective date of this Act is governed by the
- 13 law in effect on the date the application was submitted, and the
- 14 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.
- 15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.