AN ACT

relating to provisional licensing of physicians to practice in
underserved areas.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 155, Occupations Code, is
amended by adding Section 155.101 to read as follows:

Sec. 155.101. PROVISIONAL LICENSE TO PRACTICE IN CERTAIN
AREAS. (a) On application, the board shall grant a provisional
license to practice medicine in a location described by Subsection
(e) to an applicant for a license under this subtitle who is
licensed in good standing as a physician in another state.

(b) The board may not grant a provisional license under this
section to an applicant who:

(1) has had a medical license suspended or revoked by
another state or a Canadian province; or

(2) holds a medical license issued by another state or
a Canadian province that is subject to a restriction, disciplinary
order, or probationary order.

(c) The provisional license applicant must:

(1) have passed a national or other examination
recognized by the board relating to the practice of medicine within
the number of attempts allowed under Section 155.056;

(2) submit information to enable the board to conduct
a criminal background check as required by the board; and
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(3) be sponsored by a person licensed under this
subtitle with whom the provisional license holder may practice
under this section.

(d) The board may excuse an applicant for a provisional
license from the requirement of Subsection (c)(3) if the board
determines that compliance with that subsection constitutes a
hardship to the applicant.

(e) A person who holds a provisional license issued under
this section may only practice medicine in a location:

(1) designated by the federal government as a health
professional shortage area; or

(2) designated by the federal or state government as a
medically underserved area.

(f) A provisional license expires on the earlier of:

(1) the date the board issues the provisional license
holder a license under this subtitle or denies the provisional
license holder's application for a license; or

(2) the 270th day after the date the provisional
license was issued.

(g) The board shall issue a license under this subtitle to
the holder of a provisional license under this section if:

(1) the provisional license holder passes the
examination required by Section 155.051; and

(2) the provisional license holder satisfies all other
license requirements under this subtitle.

SECTION 2. Section 155.101, Occupations Code, as added by
this Act, applies to an application for a provisional license
1 submitted on or after January 1, 2010.
2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.
S.B. No. 202

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 202 passed the Senate on March 19, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 202 passed the House on May 25, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:
19 Jun '09

Date

Governor

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State
2 P.M.  O’clock
JUN 19 2009

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