

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the eligibility of certain aliens for a license to  
3 practice medicine in this state.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 155, Occupations Code, is  
6 amended by adding Section 155.0045 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 155.0045. ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT FOR  
8 CERTAIN ALIENS. (a) A license applicant who is not a United States  
9 citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in  
10 the United States must present proof satisfactory to the board that  
11 the applicant has practiced medicine or has signed an agreement to  
12 practice medicine as a condition of the license for at least three  
13 years in an area in this state that is designated by the United  
14 States Department of Health and Human Services as a health  
15 professional shortage area or a medically underserved area.

16 (b) Subsection (a) does not prohibit the board from issuing  
17 a license to an applicant described by that subsection who is  
18 applying for a license to practice medicine at a graduate medical  
19 training program in this state that is not in an area described by  
20 that subsection.

21 (c) The board shall adopt rules and procedures to implement  
22 this section, including rules to determine whether the applicant is  
23 complying with the agreement required under Subsection (a).

24 (d) The board by rule may limit the license to practice

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1 medicine of an applicant described by Subsection (a) to an area in  
2 this state that is designated by the United States Department of  
3 Health and Human Services as a health professional shortage area or  
4 a medically underserved area.

5 SECTION 2. Not later than May 1, 2012, the Texas Medical  
6 Board shall adopt the rules necessary to implement Section  
7 155.0045, Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

8 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
9 an application for an initial license to practice medicine made on  
10 or after September 1, 2012. An application for an initial license  
11 to practice medicine made before that date and the subsequent  
12 renewal of the license is covered by the law in effect when the  
13 application was made, and the former law is continued in effect for  
14 that purpose.

15 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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David Dewhurst  
President of the Senate

Joe Straus  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 189 passed the Senate on March 17, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0. \_\_\_\_\_

Datsy Gau  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 189 passed the House on May 23, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, one present not voting. \_\_\_\_\_

Robert Nancy  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

17 JUN '11

Date

RICK PERRY  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
\_\_\_\_\_ O'CLOCK

JUN 17 2011

[Signature]  
Secretary of State