

1-1 By: Thompson, Naishtat (Senate Sponsor - Nelson) H.B. No. 3674  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2009;  
1-3 May 8, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and  
1-4 Human Services; May 13, 2009, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 13, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the licensing requirements for a foreign-trained  
1-9 physician applicant.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Sections 155.0031(c) and (d), Occupations Code,  
1-12 are amended to read as follows:

1-13 (c) Applicants for a license must subscribe to an oath [~~in~~  
1-14 ~~writing before an officer authorized by law to administer oaths~~].  
1-15 The written oath is part of the application.

1-16 (d) An applicant must present proof satisfactory to the  
1-17 board that:

1-18 (1) each medical school attended by the applicant is  
1-19 substantially equivalent to a Texas medical school as determined by  
1-20 board rule; or

1-21 (2) the applicant is specialty board certified by a  
1-22 specialty board organization acceptable to the board.

1-23 SECTION 2. Section 155.004, Occupations Code, is amended to  
1-24 read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 155.004. ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR  
1-26 GRADUATES OF CERTAIN FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOLS. A license applicant  
1-27 who is a graduate of a medical school that is located outside the  
1-28 United States and Canada must present proof satisfactory to the  
1-29 board that the applicant:

1-30 (1) is a graduate of a school whose curriculum meets  
1-31 the requirements for an unapproved medical school as determined by  
1-32 a committee of experts selected by the Texas Higher Education  
1-33 Coordinating Board;

1-34 (2) has successfully completed:

1-35 (A) at least three years of graduate medical  
1-36 training in the United States or Canada that was approved by the  
1-37 board; or

1-38 (B) at least two years of graduate medical  
1-39 training in the United States or Canada that was approved by the  
1-40 board and at least one year of graduate medical training outside the  
1-41 United States or Canada that was approved for advanced standing by a  
1-42 specialty board organization approved by the board;

1-43 ~~(3) [is eligible for a license to practice medicine in~~  
1-44 ~~the country in which the school is located, except for any~~  
1-45 ~~citizenship requirements;~~

1-46 ~~[(4)] holds a valid certificate issued by the~~  
1-47 ~~Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates; and~~

1-48 ~~(4) [(5)] is able to communicate in English.~~

1-49 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
1-50 to physician applicants submitting license applications under  
1-51 Chapter 155, Occupations Code, on or after the effective date of  
1-52 this Act. An application submitted before that date is covered by  
1-53 the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this  
1-54 Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1-55 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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