

By: Ortega

H. B. No. 817

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 1 AN ACT

2 relating to a study on increasing the number of medical residency  
3 programs, medical residents, and physicians practicing medical  
4 specialties in this state.

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

6 SECTION 1. STUDY ON MEDICAL RESIDENCY PROGRAMS AND MEDICAL  
7 RESIDENTS. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in  
8 coordination with the Institute for Demographic and Socioeconomic  
9 Research at The University of Texas at San Antonio, the Regional  
10 Center for Health Workforce Studies at the Center for Health  
11 Economics and Policy of The University of Texas Health Science  
12 Center at San Antonio, and the Texas Medical Board, shall conduct a  
13 study regarding increasing:

14 (1) the number of medical residency programs and  
15 medical residents in this state; and

16 (2) the number of physicians practicing medical  
17 specialties.

18 (b) The study must:

19 (1) examine the feasibility of using a percentage of  
20 physician licensing fees to increase the number of medical  
21 residency programs and medical residents in this state;

22 (2) put emphasis on, and recommend a plan of action  
23 for, increasing the number of:

(A) medical residency programs and medical

1 residents in medically underserved areas of this state; and

2 (B) physicians practicing medical specialties  
3 that are underrepresented in this state; and

4 (3) determine the number of medical residents that  
5 obtain a license to practice medicine in this state on completion of  
6 a medical residency program in this state.

7 (c) Not later than December 1, 2018, the Texas Higher  
8 Education Coordinating Board shall:

9 (1) report the results of the study to the governor,  
10 the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of  
11 representatives; and

12 (2) make available the raw data from the study to the  
13 governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of  
14 representatives, the House Committee on Public Health, and the  
15 Senate Committee on Health and Human Services.

16 (d) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may  
17 accept gifts, grants, and donations of any kind from any source for  
18 the purposes of this section.

19 SECTION 2. EXPIRATION. This Act expires January 1, 2019.

20 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September  
21 1, 2017.