

By: Hinojosa of Hidalgo

S.B. No. 2666

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a grant program to allow the Nueces County Hospital District to recruit and retain certain medical professionals.

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

SECTION 1. Section 281.094(b), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The board of the Nueces County Hospital District may use funds made available to the district from any source to fund:

(1) indigent health care; ~~and~~

(2) intergovernmental transfers from the district to the state for use as the nonfederal share of Medicaid supplemental payment program or waiver program payments for eligible health care providers located inside or outside the district's boundaries, including, but not limited to, any payments available through a waiver granted under Section 1115, Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 1315), or other similar payment programs, subject to the limitation prescribed by Subsection (c); and

(3) the grant program established under Section 281.0941.

SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 281, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 281.0941 to read as follows:

Sec. 281.0941. NUECES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The board of the Nueces County Hospital District

1 shall establish and administer a grant program for hospitals
2 located in the hospital district to provide the funding necessary
3 to:

4 (1) allow hospitals in the district to:

5 (A) retain physicians currently practicing at
6 those hospitals; and

7 (B) recruit physicians who practice medicine in a
8 specialty for which there is limited access in the hospital
9 district to practice at those hospitals; and

10 (2) increase the number of residency positions at
11 hospitals in the district.

12 (b) The board of the hospital district shall:

13 (1) prescribe the manner in which a hospital in the
14 district may apply for a grant under this section;

15 (2) establish eligibility and selection criteria for a
16 hospital to be awarded a grant under this section; and

17 (3) establish accountability controls for hospitals
18 awarded a grant under this section to ensure:

19 (A) the grant is used in a manner that is
20 consistent with the public purpose of providing medical and
21 hospital care for the indigent residents of the district; and

22 (B) the district receives a benefit in return for
23 the award of the grant.

24 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.