

89R9597 MPF-F

By: Hinojosa of Hidalgo

C.S.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) a ~~the~~ grant program established under Section

281.0941.

(c) Neither the funds comprising an intergovernmental transfer described by Subsection (b) (2) nor any federal funds obtained from any such transfer may be used by the board of the Nueces County Hospital District or any entity to expand eligibility for medical assistance (Medicaid) under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Pub. L. No. 111-148), as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Pub. L. No. 111-152).

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 ~~PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION~~ GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The board of the Nueces County Hospital District ~~[shall]~~ may establish and administer a grant program for hospitals located in the hospital district to provide the funding necessary to:

(1) allow hospitals in the district to:

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

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

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

(b) If ~~The~~ the board of the hospital district ~~establishes a~~
grant program under this section, the board shall adopt rules
relating to administration of the program, including:

(1) ~~[prescribe]~~ prescribing the manner in which a
hospital in the district may apply for a grant under this section;

(2) ~~[establish]~~ establishing eligibility and selection
criteria for a hospital to be awarded a grant under this section;
~~[and]~~

(3) ~~[establish]~~ establishing accountability controls for
hospitals awarded a grant under this section to ensure:

(A) the grant is used in a manner that is
consistent with the public purpose of providing medical ~~aid~~ and
hospital care for the indigent ~~[residents]~~ and ~~needy persons~~
~~residing~~ ~~[of]~~ ~~in~~ the district; and

(B) the district receives a benefit in return for
the award of the grant~~[-]~~;

(4) prohibiting the use of any funds received by the
district under Chapter 298C, Texas Health and Safety Code, to fund
the grants under this section; and

(5) any other administrative aspects of the program.

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