

89R15622 MPF-F

By: Villalobos

C.S.H.B. No. 4801

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.

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 or subspecialty providing treatment for the most common and critical health care needs of the residents of 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.