

By: Alvarado

S.B. No. 2168

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a mobile stroke unit grant program.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H-1 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H-1. MOBILE STROKE UNIT GRANT PROGRAM

Sec. 773.221. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Health and Human Services Commission.

(2) "Department" means the Department of State Health Services.

(3) "Executive commissioner" means the executive commissioner of the commission.

(4) "Grant program" means the mobile stroke unit grant program established under this subchapter.

(5) "Mobile stroke unit" means a specialized emergency medical services vehicle that:

(A) is equipped with a mobile computed tomography scanner and other necessary medical equipment and medications for diagnosing and treating an individual who suffers a stroke;

(B) is staffed with personnel trained to diagnose and provide acute stroke treatment to an individual outside of a hospital setting; and

(C) has a neurologist on board the vehicle or

1 available for consultation with the vehicle's personnel through a
2 telemedicine medical service, as defined by Section 111.001,
3 Occupations Code.

4 Sec. 773.222. ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT
5 PROGRAM. The executive commissioner by rule shall establish and
6 the commission shall administer a mobile stroke unit grant program
7 to improve health care outcomes for individuals who suffer a stroke
8 by providing financial assistance to stroke facilities and increase
9 the availability of mobile stroke units in this state.

10 Sec. 773.223. APPLICATION. A stroke facility, as defined
11 by Section 773.202, that holds a comprehensive (Level 1) stroke
12 designation from the department may apply to the commission to
13 receive money under the grant program.

14 Sec. 773.224. AWARD OF GRANTS. (a) The executive
15 commissioner by rule shall establish eligibility criteria and a
16 scoring system for the commission to award grants under the
17 program.

18 (b) The commission may award grants under the program to
19 eligible applicants.

20 Sec. 773.225. USE OF GRANT MONEY. A grant recipient may use
21 money awarded under the grant program only for the recipient's
22 capital costs associated with procuring equipment necessary to
23 operate a mobile stroke unit, including:

- 24 (1) a specialized emergency medical services vehicle;
25 (2) a mobile computed tomography scanner;
26 (3) medical equipment used in diagnosing or treating
27 an individual who suffers a stroke; and

1 (4) any other equipment the commission considers
2 necessary or appropriate.

3 Sec. 773.226. GRANT RECIPIENT REPORTING REQUIREMENT. A
4 grant recipient shall annually submit to the commission a report on
5 the recipient's use of grant money, including:

6 (1) the health outcomes of individuals treated by the
7 recipient's mobile stroke units; and

8 (2) the recipient's operating expenses associated with
9 operating mobile stroke units.

10 Sec. 773.227. FUNDING. The commission shall award grants
11 as provided by this subchapter from available money and any
12 additional money appropriated for purposes of this subchapter.

13 Sec. 773.228. GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS. The commission
14 may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any source that are
15 made for the purposes of the grant program.

16 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2024, the executive
17 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
18 adopt the rules necessary to implement Subchapter H-1, Chapter 773,
19 Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.