

1-1 By: King, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Perry, et al.) H.B. No. 3000  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 5, 2025;  
 1-3 May 16, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Finance;  
 1-4 May 25, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 14,  
 1-5 Nays 0; May 25, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10			X	
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			
1-20	X			
1-21	X			
1-22	X			

1-23 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-24 AN ACT

1-25 relating to a grant program to provide financial assistance to  
 1-26 qualified ambulance service providers in certain rural counties.

1-27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-28 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 130, Local Government  
 1-29 Code, is amended by adding Section 130.914 to read as follows:

1-30 Sec. 130.914. RURAL AMBULANCE SERVICE GRANT PROGRAM. (a)  
 1-31 In this section:

1-32 (1) "Grant program" means the rural ambulance service  
 1-33 grant program established by this section.

1-34 (2) "Qualified county" is a county that has a  
 1-35 population of 68,750 or less.

1-36 (3) "Qualified rural ambulance service provider"  
 1-37 means a private safety entity or public agency as those terms are  
 1-38 defined by Section 772.001, Health and Safety Code, licensed by the  
 1-39 Department of State Health Services to provide emergency medical  
 1-40 services and operating predominantly in a rural area.

1-41 (b) The comptroller shall establish and administer the  
 1-42 rural ambulance service grant program to support the state purpose  
 1-43 of ensuring adequate ground ambulance services by providing  
 1-44 financial assistance to qualified rural ambulance service  
 1-45 providers in qualified counties.

1-46 (c) Not later than the 30th day after the first day of a  
 1-47 qualified county's fiscal year, the county may submit a grant  
 1-48 application to the comptroller. A county may submit only one  
 1-49 application each fiscal year. If a county is awarded a grant under  
 1-50 this program, the county is ineligible to apply for an additional  
 1-51 grant.

1-52 (d) The comptroller may award a grant to a qualified county  
 1-53 using money appropriated to the comptroller for that purpose and  
 1-54 only in accordance with a contract between the comptroller and the  
 1-55 county that includes conditions providing the comptroller with  
 1-56 sufficient control to ensure the public purpose of providing  
 1-57 adequate ground ambulance services is accomplished. In awarding  
 1-58 grants, the comptroller shall consider:

1-59 (1) the distance from a qualified county's county seat  
 1-60 to the nearest Level I trauma facility; and

1-61 (2) the county's ability to otherwise obtain the money

2-1 necessary to provide adequate ground ambulance services.

2-2 (e) The comptroller may award a grant under this section  
2-3 only in the following applicable amount:

2-4 (1) for a county with a population of less than 10,000,  
2-5 an amount not to exceed \$500,000; or

2-6 (2) for a county with a population between 10,000 and  
2-7 68,750, an amount not to exceed \$350,000.

2-8 (f) A qualified county awarded a grant under this section  
2-9 may use or authorize the use of the grant money only to purchase  
2-10 ambulances as provided by comptroller rule.

2-11 (g) A qualified county awarded a grant under this section  
2-12 may not reduce the budget of the qualified rural ambulance service  
2-13 provider for the county's next fiscal year following the fiscal  
2-14 year of the grant award.

2-15 (h) The comptroller may disburse a grant award to a  
2-16 qualified county before the county places an order for an  
2-17 ambulance. The county shall purchase and take possession of an  
2-18 ambulance with money awarded under the grant program not later than  
2-19 the fifth anniversary of the date the county receives the money.  
2-20 The comptroller shall adopt rules necessary to implement this  
2-21 section, including rules to establish:

2-22 (1) a standardized application process, the form to  
2-23 apply for a grant, and the manner of submitting the form;

2-24 (2) deadlines for:  
2-25 (A) applying for a grant;  
2-26 (B) disbursing grant money; and  
2-27 (C) spending grant money;

2-28 (3) procedures for:  
2-29 (A) monitoring the disbursement of grant money to  
2-30 ensure compliance with this section; and

2-31 (B) requiring the return of grant money awarded  
2-32 if a county fails to use the money for a purpose authorized by this  
2-33 section; and

2-34 (4) the type of ground ambulance vehicles that may be  
2-35 purchased with grant money.

2-36 SECTION 2. A qualified county, as defined by Section  
2-37 130.914(a)(2), Local Government Code, as added by this Act, may  
2-38 apply for a rural ambulance service grant on or after January 1,  
2-39 2026.

2-40 SECTION 3. Not later than January 1, 2026, the comptroller  
2-41 of public accounts shall establish and administer the rural  
2-42 ambulance service grant program and adopt the rules necessary to  
2-43 implement the program as required by Section 130.914, Local  
2-44 Government Code, as added by this Act.

2-45 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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