

By: Flores

H.B. No. 2217

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to partnering with the United States Department of  
3 Veterans Affairs and other federal agencies to establish a veterans  
4 hospital in the Rio Grande Valley region of the state.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 434, Government Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 434.019 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 434.019. VETERANS HOSPITAL. (a) The Texas Veterans  
9 Commission and the Department of State Health Services shall work  
10 with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and any other  
11 appropriate federal agency to propose that the federal government  
12 establish a veterans hospital in the Rio Grande Valley region of the  
13 state.

14 (b) The state may contribute money, property, and other  
15 resources to the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a  
16 veterans hospital described by this section.

17 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.