

1-1 By: Flores, Martinez, Leibowitz H.B. No. 2217  
1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa)  
1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 23, 2009;  
1-4 May 1, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran  
1-5 Affairs and Military Installations; May 8, 2009, reported  
1-6 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 8, 2009, sent  
1-7 to printer.)

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to partnering with the United States Department of  
1-11 Veterans Affairs and other federal agencies to establish a veterans  
1-12 hospital in the Rio Grande Valley region of the state.

1-13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-14 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 434, Government Code, is  
1-15 amended by adding Section 434.019 to read as follows:

1-16 Sec. 434.019. VETERANS HOSPITAL. (a) The Texas Veterans  
1-17 Commission and the Department of State Health Services shall work  
1-18 with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and any other  
1-19 appropriate federal agency to propose that the federal government  
1-20 establish a veterans hospital in the Rio Grande Valley region of the  
1-21 state.

1-22 (b) The state may contribute money, property, and other  
1-23 resources to the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a  
1-24 veterans hospital described by this section.

1-25 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
1-26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
1-27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
1-28 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
1-29 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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