

By: Canales

H.B. No. 318

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to an appropriation of money from the economic
3 stabilization fund to the fund for veterans' assistance for grants
4 to improve the level of health services provided to certain
5 veterans.

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

7 SECTION 1. (a) The amount of \$10 million is appropriated
8 from the economic stabilization fund to the fund for veterans'
9 assistance for use by the Texas Veterans Commission during the
10 state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2017, to make grants
11 in accordance with this Act and rules adopted by the commission to
12 improve the level of health services provided to veterans in this
13 state.

14 (b) From among organizations that apply in the time and
15 manner established by the Texas Veterans Commission for a grant of
16 money under this Act, the commission shall select those
17 organizations that best meet the criteria adopted for the purpose
18 by the commission. The criteria must require that an organization
19 receiving a grant of money under this Act use the money in a manner
20 that improves the level of health services provided by this state to
21 veterans who reside in this state at locations more than 200 miles
22 from a veterans hospital.

23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017, but only
24 if it receives a vote of two-thirds of the members present in each

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1 house of the legislature, as provided by Section [49-g\(m\)](#), Article
2 III, Texas Constitution.