

1-1 By: Sheffield, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Seliger) H.B. No. 1407
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 5, 2017;
 1-3 May 5, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Health &
 1-4 Human Services; May 17, 2017, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 2;
 1-6 May 17, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
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 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 1407 By: Buckingham

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the establishment of the emergency medical services
 1-22 assistance program.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code, is amended
 1-25 by adding Subchapter I to read as follows:

1-26 SUBCHAPTER I. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

1-27 Sec. 773.251. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

1-28 (1) "Educational curriculum" means a
 1-29 distance-learning emergency medical services curriculum that
 1-30 provides remote courses of instruction and training to emergency
 1-31 medical services personnel who serve a rural area.

1-32 (2) "General academic teaching institution" and
 1-33 "public technical institute" have the meanings assigned by Section
 1-34 61.003, Education Code.

1-35 (3) "Program" means the emergency medical services
 1-36 assistance program established under this subchapter.

1-37 Sec. 773.252. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM. (a) The
 1-38 department shall establish the emergency medical services
 1-39 assistance program to provide financial and educational assistance
 1-40 to eligible emergency medical services providers.

1-41 (b) The program includes grants to eligible emergency
 1-42 medical services providers and an educational curriculum to provide
 1-43 training to rural emergency medical services personnel.

1-44 Sec. 773.253. RULES. (a) The executive commissioner shall
 1-45 adopt rules necessary to implement this subchapter, including rules
 1-46 for:

1-47 (1) determining eligibility under the program;

1-48 (2) establishing requirements for the educational
 1-49 curriculum; and

1-50 (3) establishing requirements for a general academic
 1-51 teaching institution or public technical institute that develops
 1-52 and offers the educational curriculum.

1-53 (b) The rules must require that:

1-54 (1) an emergency medical services provider
 1-55 demonstrate financial need to be eligible for assistance under the
 1-56 program;

1-57 (2) a general academic teaching institution or public
 1-58 technical institute applying to offer the educational curriculum
 1-59 demonstrate the qualifications necessary to develop and offer the
 1-60 educational curriculum; and

2-1 (3) the educational curriculum provide to rural
2-2 emergency medical services personnel the remote instructional
2-3 courses and training necessary for the personnel to achieve
2-4 department certification under Subchapter C.

2-5 Sec. 773.254. APPLICATION BY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
2-6 PROVIDER. (a) An emergency medical services provider may apply to
2-7 the department in the form and manner provided by department rule to
2-8 receive assistance under the program.

2-9 (b) If the department determines an applicant is eligible
2-10 for assistance under the program, the department may provide a
2-11 grant under Section 773.257 to the applicant.

2-12 Sec. 773.255. EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM. (a) A general
2-13 academic teaching institution or public technical institute may
2-14 apply to the department in the form and manner provided by
2-15 department rule to develop and offer the educational curriculum
2-16 under this subchapter.

2-17 (b) The department may contract with not more than three
2-18 qualified general academic teaching institutions or public
2-19 technical institutes to develop and offer the educational
2-20 curriculum under this subchapter.

2-21 Sec. 773.256. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. The department may
2-22 provide administrative support to the program.

2-23 Sec. 773.257. GRANTS. (a) The commissioner may use money
2-24 from the permanent fund for emergency medical services and trauma
2-25 care established under Section 403.106, Government Code, to provide
2-26 grants, in addition to funding available from other sources, to
2-27 emergency medical services providers applying for assistance under
2-28 the program or to provide funding to a general academic teaching
2-29 institution or public technical institute offering the educational
2-30 curriculum under this subchapter.

2-31 (b) The commissioner shall ensure that at least 60 percent
2-32 of the grants provided under this section are provided to emergency
2-33 medical services providers that serve a rural area.

2-34 (c) The executive commissioner by rule shall establish a
2-35 procedure for the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council to
2-36 establish priorities for issuance of grants under this section.

2-37 (d) The department shall distribute grants under this
2-38 section in accordance with the requirements of Subsection (b) and
2-39 the grant priorities established under Subsection (c).

2-40 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding another provision of this Act,
2-41 the Department of State Health Services is required to implement
2-42 this Act only if the legislature appropriates money specifically
2-43 for that purpose. If the legislature does not appropriate money
2-44 specifically for that purpose, the Department of State Health
2-45 Services may, but is not required to, implement this Act using other
2-46 appropriations available for that purpose.

2-47 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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