

By: Davis of Harris

H.B. No. 2478

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an innovation grant program to support residency training programs in psychiatric specialty fields.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 58A, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter D to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D. PSYCHIATRIC SPECIALTY INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM

Sec. 58A.071. PSYCHIATRIC SPECIALTY INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM. Subject to available funds, the board shall establish an innovation grant program under which the board awards incentive payments to medical schools that administer innovative residency training programs designed to increase the number of physicians in this state who specialize in pediatric or adult psychiatric care.

Sec. 58A.072. FEDERAL FUNDS AND GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS. In addition to other money appropriated by the legislature, for the purpose of promoting pediatric or adult psychiatric care under the program established under this subchapter the board:

(1) shall first seek and apply for any available federal funds; and

(2) after determining in a program year the state's eligibility for funds described by Subdivision (1), may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any other source, public or private, as necessary to ensure effective implementation of the

1 program.

2 Sec. 58A.073. RULES. In consultation with each medical  
3 school in this state, the board shall adopt rules for the  
4 administration of the program established under this  
5 subchapter. The rules must include:

6 (1) administrative provisions relating to the  
7 awarding of grants under this subchapter, such as:

8 (A) eligibility criteria for medical schools;

9 (B) grant application procedures;

10 (C) guidelines relating to grant amounts;

11 (D) procedures for evaluating grant  
12 applications; and

13 (E) procedures for monitoring the use of grants;

14 and

15 (2) methods for tracking the effectiveness of grants  
16 that:

17 (A) using data reasonably available to the board,  
18 consider relevant information regarding the career paths of medical  
19 school graduates during the four-year period following their  
20 graduation; and

21 (B) evaluate whether and for how long those  
22 graduates practice in a psychiatric specialty field in this state.

23 Sec. 58A.074. AWARD OF GRANTS. (a) In awarding grants  
24 under the program, the board shall award:

25 (1) 60 percent of the amount available in each program  
26 year to medical schools with innovative residency programs that  
27 train physicians to specialize in pediatric psychiatric care; and

1           (2) 40 percent of the amount available in each program  
2 year to medical schools with innovative residency programs that  
3 train physicians to specialize in adult psychiatric care.

4           (b) Within each category of grants prescribed by Subsection  
5 (a), the board shall give priority to grants to medical schools with  
6 innovative residency programs based in rural or underserved areas.

7           Sec. 58A.075. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. A reasonable amount,  
8 not to exceed three percent, of any money appropriated for purposes  
9 of this subchapter may be used by the board to pay the costs of  
10 administering this subchapter.

11           SECTION 2. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective  
12 date of this Act, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
13 shall adopt rules for the implementation and administration of the  
14 innovation grant program established under Subchapter D, Chapter  
15 58A, Education Code, as added by this Act.

16           (b) Not later than September 1, 2018, the Texas Higher  
17 Education Coordinating Board shall establish the innovation grant  
18 program required by Subchapter D, Chapter 58A, Education Code, as  
19 added by this Act, and shall begin to award grants under the program  
20 as soon as practicable after the program is established.

21           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.