

By: Sheffield

H.B. No. 3577

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the emergency medical services educational program.

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

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

SUBCHAPTER I. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Sec. 773.251. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

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

(2) "Postsecondary educational institution" means any institution, public or private, which provides courses of instruction beyond that offered in secondary schools.

(3) "Program" means the emergency medical services educational program established under this subchapter.

Sec. 773.252. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM. The department shall establish the emergency medical services educational program to provide an educational curriculum for training rural emergency medical services personnel.

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

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

3           (2) establishing requirements for a postsecondary  
4 educational institution that develops and offers the educational  
5 curriculum.

6           (b) The rules must require that:

7           (1) a postsecondary educational institution applying  
8 to offer the educational curriculum demonstrate the qualifications  
9 necessary to develop and offer the educational curriculum; and

10           (2) the educational curriculum provide to rural  
11 emergency medical services personnel the remote instructional  
12 courses and training necessary for the personnel to achieve  
13 department certification under Subchapter C.

14           Sec. 773.254. EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM. (a) A postsecondary  
15 educational institution may apply to the department in the form and  
16 manner provided by department rule to develop and offer the  
17 educational curriculum under this subchapter.

18           (b) The department may contract with not more than three  
19 qualified postsecondary educational institutions to develop and  
20 offer the educational curriculum under this subchapter.

21           Sec. 773.255. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. The department may  
22 provide administrative support to the program.

23           Sec. 773.256. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES EDUCATIONAL  
24 ACCOUNT. (a) In this section, "account" means the emergency  
25 medical services educational account established under this  
26 section.

27           (b) The emergency medical services educational account is

1 established as a dedicated account in the general revenue fund.

2 (c) The account is composed of:

3 (1) money deposited to the credit of the account under  
4 Section 542.4031, Transportation Code; and

5 (2) notwithstanding Section 404.071, Government Code,  
6 interest earned on the investment of money in the account and  
7 depository interest allocable to the account.

8 (d) Money in the account may be appropriated to the  
9 department only for the purposes described by Subsection (e).

10 (e) The commissioner may use the money appropriated from the  
11 account to provide funding to a postsecondary educational  
12 institution offering the educational curriculum under this  
13 subchapter.

14 SECTION 2. Section 542.4031(g), Transportation Code, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (g) Of the money received by the comptroller under this  
17 section, the comptroller shall deposit:

18 (1) 50.5 ~~67~~ percent to the credit of the undedicated  
19 portion of the general revenue fund; ~~and~~

20 (2) 33 percent to the credit of the designated trauma  
21 facility and emergency medical services account under Section  
22 780.003, Health and Safety Code; and

23 (3) 16.5 percent to the credit of the emergency  
24 medical services educational account under Section 773.256, Health  
25 and Safety Code.

26 SECTION 3. Section 542.4031(g), Transportation Code, as  
27 amended by this Act, applies only to the distribution of revenue

1 collected on or after the effective date of this Act. The  
2 distribution of revenue collected before the effective date of this  
3 Act is governed by the law in effect at the time the revenue was  
4 collected, and that law is continued in effect for the purpose of  
5 the distribution of that revenue.

6 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.