

By: Schwertner

S.B. No. 1923

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to infrastructure funding for state hospital facilities and other state facilities, including the creation of the state hospital fund.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 552, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter E to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER E. STATE HOSPITAL FUND

Sec. 552.201. PURPOSE; INTENT. (a) The legislature recognizes the importance of providing funding for this state's infrastructure needs at state hospitals and other state facilities. The purpose of this Act is to ensure:

(1) the safety and security of patients, system employees, and visitors;

(2) that care for patients is provided in a setting that represents the standard of mental health care;

(3) collaboration with the state's health-related institutions of higher education to educate and expand our mental health workforce; and

(4) the reduction of recidivism and waiting lists in the state hospital system.

(b) To accomplish this purpose, this Act creates the state hospital fund.

Sec. 552.202. FUND. (a) The state hospital fund is an

1 account in the state treasury.

2 (b) The fund consists of:

3 (1) any amount deposited, paid, or appropriated by the
4 legislature;

5 (2) all amounts paid lawfully into the fund from any
6 other source; and

7 (3) all interest or other earnings on money credited
8 to the fund.

9 (c) Money deposited to the credit of the fund may be used
10 only as provided by this subchapter.

11 Sec. 552.203. USE OF FUND. Money appropriated from the
12 state hospital fund shall be used for the purposes described by
13 Section 552.201.

14 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.