

By: King of Hemphill

H.B. No. 319

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a grant program to assist fire departments and volunteer fire departments with the purchase of certain equipment and machines.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 419, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 419.910 to read as follows:

Sec. 419.910. GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The commission shall establish and administer a grant program to provide financial assistance to a fire department or volunteer fire department seeking to purchase fire-fighting equipment or a machine to clean fire-fighting equipment. Any fire department or volunteer fire department in this state may apply for a grant under this section.

(b) A fire department or volunteer fire department receiving a grant under this section must, as soon as practicable after receiving the grant, provide to the commission proof of purchase of fire-fighting equipment or a machine to clean fire-fighting equipment, including the price of each piece of equipment or machine and the number of items purchased.

(c) Not later than December 1 of each year, the commission shall submit a report to the Legislative Budget Board reporting the following information for the preceding state fiscal year:

(1) the name of each fire department and volunteer fire department that applied for a grant under this section;

1 (2) the amount of money distributed to each department
2 that received a grant under this section; and

3 (3) the number and a description of items purchased by
4 each department described by Subdivision (2).

5 (d) The commission may use any revenue available for
6 purposes of this section.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.