

1-1 By: Ashby, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Kolkhorst) H.B. No. 1065
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 15, 2019;
 1-3 April 16, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Higher
 1-4 Education; May 9, 2019, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0;
 1-6 May 9, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8 Creighton	X			
1-9 West	X			
1-10 Bettencourt	X			
1-11 Buckingham	X			
1-12 Flores	X			
1-13 Menéndez			X	
1-14 Powell	X			
1-15 Taylor	X			
1-16 Watson	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 1065 By: Taylor

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

1-21 relating to the establishment of a rural resident physician grant
 1-22 program.

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

1-24 SECTION 1. Chapter 58A, Education Code, is amended by
 1-25 adding Subchapter E to read as follows:

1-26 SUBCHAPTER E. RURAL RESIDENT PHYSICIAN GRANT PROGRAM

1-27 Sec. 58A.081. RURAL RESIDENT PHYSICIAN GRANT PROGRAM. (a)
 1-28 The board shall administer the Rural Resident Physician Grant
 1-29 Program as a competitive grant program to encourage the creation of
 1-30 new graduate medical education positions in rural and
 1-31 nonmetropolitan areas, with particular emphasis on the creation of
 1-32 rural training tracks. The board shall award grants to new or
 1-33 expanded physician residency programs at teaching hospitals and
 1-34 other appropriate health care entities according to the program
 1-35 criteria established under this section.

1-36 (b) The board shall establish criteria for the grant program
 1-37 in consultation with one or more physicians, including a physician
 1-38 who practices in a rural area of this state, teaching hospitals,
 1-39 medical schools, and independent physician residency programs, and
 1-40 with other persons considered appropriate by the board. The
 1-41 program criteria must take into account whether a rural or
 1-42 nonmetropolitan area has the resources sufficient to support a
 1-43 physician residency program in a manner that would satisfy
 1-44 applicable residency program accreditation requirements.

1-45 (c) The board may provide grants only to support a physician
 1-46 residency program:

1-47 (1) that provides the level of medical care that is
 1-48 most needed in a rural or nonmetropolitan area; and

1-49 (2) until the program becomes eligible for federal
 1-50 grant funding.

1-51 (d) Grant funds awarded under this section may be used only
 1-52 to pay direct costs associated with creating or maintaining a
 1-53 residency position, including the salary of the resident physician.

1-54 (e) Each grant application must:

1-55 (1) specify the number of residency positions expected
 1-56 to be created or maintained with the grant money;

1-57 (2) specify the grant amount requested for each year;

1-58 (3) include documentation of infrastructure and
 1-59 staffing to satisfy applicable residency program accreditation
 1-60 requirements;

1-61 (4) include documentation that the residency program

2-1 will set a primary goal of producing physicians who are prepared for
2-2 practice in a rural area; and

2-3 (5) include evidence of support for residency training
2-4 by sponsoring institutions and the community.

2-5 (f) The board shall award grants for all residency positions
2-6 awarded a grant under this section in the preceding year before
2-7 awarding a grant for a residency position that did not receive a
2-8 grant in the preceding year, provided that the applicable grant
2-9 recipient from the preceding year complies with all conditions of
2-10 the grant as described by Subsection (g) and satisfies the grant
2-11 eligibility requirements.

2-12 (g) The board shall monitor physician residency programs
2-13 receiving grants as necessary to ensure compliance with the grant
2-14 program and shall require the return of any unused grant money by,
2-15 or shall decline to award additional grants to, a residency program
2-16 that receives a grant but fails to:

2-17 (1) create and fill, within a reasonable period, the
2-18 number of residency positions proposed in the program's grant
2-19 application; or

2-20 (2) satisfy any other conditions of the grant imposed
2-21 by the board.

2-22 (h) The board shall use money forfeited under Subsection (g)
2-23 to award grants to other eligible applicants. With respect to the
2-24 physician residency program forfeiting the grant, the board may
2-25 restore grant money or award additional grants, as applicable, to
2-26 the program as soon as practicable after the program satisfies all
2-27 conditions of the grant.

2-28 (i) The board shall adopt rules for the administration of
2-29 the grant program. The rules must include:

2-30 (1) administrative provisions governing:

2-31 (A) eligibility criteria for grant applicants;

2-32 (B) grant application procedures;

2-33 (C) guidelines relating to grant amounts;

2-34 (D) guidelines relating to the number of grants

2-35 to be awarded each year, subject to available funds;

2-36 (E) procedures for evaluating grant

2-37 applications;

2-38 (F) procedures for monitoring the use of grants;

2-39 and

2-40 (G) reporting requirements for grant recipients;

2-41 (2) methods for tracking the effectiveness of grants;

2-42 and

2-43 (3) any conditions relating to the receipt and use of a
2-44 grant as considered appropriate by the board.

2-45 SECTION 2. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective
2-46 date of this Act, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
2-47 shall adopt rules for the implementation and administration of the
2-48 grant program established under Subchapter E, Chapter 58A,
2-49 Education Code, as added by this Act. The board may adopt the
2-50 initial rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

2-51 (b) Not later than October 1, 2019, the Texas Higher
2-52 Education Coordinating Board shall establish the grant program
2-53 required by Subchapter E, Chapter 58A, Education Code, as added by
2-54 this Act, and shall begin to award grants under that program not
2-55 later than January 1, 2020.

2-56 SECTION 3. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is
2-57 required to implement a provision of this Act only if the
2-58 legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If
2-59 the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that
2-60 purpose, the coordinating board may, but is not required to,
2-61 implement a provision of this Act using other appropriations
2-62 available for that purpose.

2-63 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-64 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-65 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-66 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-67 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

2-68 * * * * *