

By: Price

H.B. No. 2707

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the expansion of the community mental health grant
3 program to include services to and treatment of individuals with
4 substance use disorders.

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

6 SECTION 1. The heading to Section 531.0999, Government
7 Code, as added by Chapter 770 (H.B. 13), Acts of the 85th
8 Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, is amended to read as follows:

9 Sec. 531.0999. GRANT PROGRAM FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND
10 SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES.

11 SECTION 2. Section 531.0999, Government Code, as added by
12 Chapter 770 (H.B. 13), Acts of the 85th Legislature, Regular
13 Session, 2017, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (d), (f),
14 (h), and (i) to read as follows:

15 (a) To the extent money is appropriated to the commission
16 for that purpose, the commission shall establish a matching grant
17 program for the purpose of supporting community mental health and
18 substance use disorder programs providing services and treatment to
19 individuals experiencing a mental illness or substance use
20 disorder.

21 (d) A grant awarded under the matching grant program and
22 matching amounts must be used for the sole purpose of supporting
23 community programs that provide mental health care or substance use
24 disorder services and treatment to individuals with a mental

1 illness or substance use disorder, as applicable, and that
2 coordinate mental health care or substance use disorder services
3 for individuals with a mental illness or substance use disorder, as
4 applicable, with other transition support services.

5 (f) A nonprofit or governmental entity that applies for a
6 grant under this section must notify each local mental health
7 authority or local behavioral health authority with a local service
8 area that is covered wholly or partly by the entity's proposed
9 community mental health or substance use disorder program and must
10 provide in the entity's application a letter of support from each
11 local mental health authority or local behavioral health authority
12 with a local service area that is covered wholly or partly by the
13 entity's proposed community mental health or substance use disorder
14 program. The commission shall consider a local mental health
15 authority's or local behavioral health authority's written input
16 before awarding a grant under this section and may take any
17 recommendations made by the authority.

18 (h) A community that receives a grant under this section is
19 required to leverage funds in an amount:

20 (1) equal to 50 percent of the grant amount if the
21 community mental health or substance use disorder program is
22 located in a county with a population of less than 250,000;

23 (2) equal to 100 percent of the grant amount if the
24 community mental health or substance use disorder program is
25 located in a county with a population of at least 250,000; and

26 (3) equal to the percentage of the grant amount
27 otherwise required by this subsection for the largest county in

1 which a community mental health or substance use disorder program
2 is located if the community mental health or substance use disorder
3 program is located in more than one county.

4 (i) Except as provided by Subsection (j), from money
5 appropriated to the commission for each fiscal year to implement
6 this section, the commission shall reserve 50 percent of that total
7 to be awarded only as grants to a community mental health or
8 substance use disorder program located in a county with a
9 population not greater than 250,000.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.