

By: Springer

S.B. No. 49

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a prohibition on the use of state or local money by certain hospitals to pay for travel nurses.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle F, Title 4, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 318 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 318. PROHIBITION ON USE OF STATE OR LOCAL MONEY BY CERTAIN HOSPITALS

Sec. 318.0001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "COVID-19" means the 2019 novel coronavirus disease.

(2) "Hospital" means a public or private facility licensed under Chapter 241.

(3) "Local governmental entity" has the meaning assigned by Section 315.001.

Sec. 318.0002. PROHIBITION ON USE OF STATE OR LOCAL MONEY FOR TRAVEL NURSES. A hospital may not use nonfederal money received by the hospital from this state or a local governmental entity to compensate a travel nurse if the travel nurse is filling a position that is vacant because the hospital terminated a member of the hospital's nursing staff for refusing to comply with a mandate requiring a COVID-19 vaccination imposed by the hospital or the state or federal government.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

S.B. No. 49

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
5 legislative session.