

By: Ashby, Lambert, Darby, Spiller

H.B. No. 3010

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the Rural Infrastructure Disaster Recovery Program.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter D-1 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D-1. RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM

Sec. 418.081. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Account" means the rural infrastructure disaster recovery account created under Section 418.086.

(2) "Critical infrastructure" includes:

(A) a road;

(B) a public school;

(C) a hospital or other health care facility;

(D) a water intake structure, water treatment facility, wastewater treatment plant, or pump station;

(E) utility-scale water or wastewater storage, treatment, or transmission facilities; and

(F) airport facilities used for the landing, parking, refueling, shelter, or takeoff of aircraft, maintenance or servicing of aircraft, aircraft equipment storage, or navigation of aircraft.

(3) "Disaster area" means an area in this state declared to be a disaster area by the governor.

1 (4) "Eligible political subdivision" means a
2 political subdivision that meets the qualifications prescribed by
3 Section 418.083.

4 (5) "Political subdivision," notwithstanding Section
5 418.004, means a county, municipality, special district, school
6 district, junior college district, or other political subdivision
7 of this state.

8 Sec. 418.082. RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DISASTER RECOVERY
9 PROGRAM. (a) The division shall establish and administer a rural
10 infrastructure disaster recovery program in accordance with this
11 subchapter to benefit eligible political subdivisions. The program
12 must be designed to provide financial assistance in the form of
13 grants to rural communities located in a disaster area for the
14 purpose of rebuilding and repairing critical infrastructure
15 damaged by a disaster.

16 (b) The division may make grants in accordance with this
17 subchapter using money appropriated to the division for the
18 purposes of this subchapter.

19 Sec. 418.083. ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANT. A political
20 subdivision is eligible to apply to the division for a grant under
21 this subchapter if the political subdivision is:

22 (1) a county:

23 (A) that:

24 (i) has a population of less than 100,000;

25 (ii) has a gross domestic product of less
26 than \$2 billion;

27 (iii) has a poverty rate greater than 15

1 percent; and

2 (iv) is located wholly or partly in a
3 disaster area; and

4 (B) for which the total dollar amount of damages
5 resulting from the disaster, as shown in an assessment of damages
6 prepared after the disaster, exceeds the amount equal to 10 percent
7 of the state and local sales and use taxes collected in the county
8 during the state fiscal year preceding the year in which the
9 disaster occurs; or

10 (2) a political subdivision other than a county that
11 is wholly or partly located in a county described by Subdivision
12 (1).

13 Sec. 418.084. GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The division may make a
14 grant to an eligible political subdivision using money in the
15 account to assist in the rebuilding or repair of critical
16 infrastructure located in the eligible political subdivision that
17 is damaged by a disaster that may reasonably be considered a public
18 calamity.

19 (b) The proceeds of a grant made by the division using money
20 in the account may not be used by the eligible political subdivision
21 receiving the grant for any purpose other than the purpose
22 described by Subsection (a).

23 Sec. 418.085. APPLICATION FOR GRANT. (a) The division
24 shall establish an application process for a grant under this
25 subchapter.

26 (b) At a minimum, an application must include:

27 (1) a description of the infrastructure repair or

1 rebuild project for which the applicant is requesting the grant;

2 (2) an estimate of the total cost of the project;

3 (3) documentation that the project does not qualify
4 for federal funding through the Federal Emergency Management
5 Agency; and

6 (4) any other information the division requests to
7 determine whether the applicant is an eligible political
8 subdivision.

9 Sec. 418.086. RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DISASTER RECOVERY
10 ACCOUNT. (a) The rural infrastructure disaster recovery account
11 is established as an account in the general revenue fund with the
12 comptroller, to be administered by the division.

13 (b) The division may use the rural infrastructure disaster
14 recovery account only for:

15 (1) making a grant to an eligible political
16 subdivision; and

17 (2) paying the necessary and reasonable expenses of
18 administering the grant.

19 (c) The account consists of:

20 (1) money appropriated, credited, or transferred to
21 the account by the legislature;

22 (2) gifts or grants contributed to the account; and

23 (3) interest earned on deposits and investments of the
24 account.

25 Sec. 418.087. RULES. The division shall adopt rules
26 necessary to administer this subchapter, including rules
27 establishing procedures for the application for and award of

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1 grants, distribution of grants, and administration of grants and
2 the grant program established under this subchapter.

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.