

By: Villalobos

H.B. No. 4801

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 4801:

By: Bell of Montgomery

C.S.H.B. No. 4801

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authorizing the establishment of a grant program to allow the Nueces County Hospital District to recruit and retain certain medical professionals.

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

SECTION 1. Section 281.094(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) With the approval of the Nueces County Commissioners Court, the board of the Nueces County Hospital District may use funds made available to the district from sources other than a tax levy to fund:

(1) health care services, including public health services, mental health services, intellectual disability services, emergency medical services, health services provided to persons confined in jail facilities, and for other health related purposes; and

(2) a grant program established under Section 281.0941.

SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 281, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 281.0941 to read as follows:

Sec. 281.0941. NUECES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The board of the Nueces County Hospital District may establish and administer a grant program for hospitals located in the hospital district to

provide the funding necessary to:

(1) allow hospitals in the district to:

(A) retain physicians currently practicing at those hospitals; and

(B) recruit physicians who practice medicine in a specialty or subspecialty providing treatment for the most common and critical health care needs of the residents of the hospital district to practice at those hospitals; and

(2) increase the number of residency positions at hospitals in the district.

(b) If the board of the hospital district establishes a grant program under this section, the board shall adopt rules to ensure the grant is used in a manner that is consistent with the public purpose of providing medical aid and hospital care for the indigent and needy individuals residing in the district, including rules:

(1) prescribing the manner in which a hospital in the district may apply for a grant under this section;

(2) establishing eligibility and selection criteria for a hospital to be awarded a grant under this section;

(3) establishing accountability controls for hospitals awarded a grant under this section to ensure the district receives a benefit in return for the award of the grant; and

(4) relating to any other aspect of the program the board determines necessary for the program's administration.

(c) The board of the hospital district may not use money received by the district under Chapter 298C to fund a grant awarded

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1 under this section.

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