

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 12, 2023

3 **AS AMENDED**

4 ENGROSSED HOUSE

5 BILL NO. 1321

6 By: McCall of the House

7 and

8 Haste of the Senate

9 **[emergency room services - Revolving Fund -**
10 **deposits - grants - awards - rules - noncodification**
11 **- codification - effective date -**
12 **emergency]**

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
15 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

16 A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Rural
17 Emergency Room Access to Care and Facilities Improvements Act".

18 B. The Legislature hereby finds that access to reliable,
19 adequate, and available emergency room care throughout the state is
20 beneficial to the state and its citizens and must be secured.

21 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2740 of Title 63, unless there
23 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

24 A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving
fund for the State Department of Health to be designated the "Rural

1 Emergency Room Access to Care and Facilities Improvements Revolving
2 Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal
3 year limitations, and shall consist of all monies legally directed
4 for deposit to the fund. All monies accruing to the credit of said
5 fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the
6 State Department of Health for the purpose of providing grants to
7 qualifying facilities in accordance with the provisions and
8 limitations of subsections C and D of this section. Expenditures
9 from said fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State
10 Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the
11 Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for
12 approval and payment.

13 B. As used in the Rural Emergency Room Access to Care and
14 Facilities Improvements Act:

15 1. "Qualifying facilities" means a hospital located in a county
16 with a population less than 50,000 as reported in the most recent
17 Federal Decennial Census published by the United States Census
18 Bureau; and

19 2. "Qualified emergency room physician" means a board-certified
20 emergency room physician.

21 C. From any available, unencumbered balance in the Rural
22 Emergency Room Access to Care and Facilities Improvements Revolving
23 Fund, the State Department of Health is authorized to award grants
24 to qualifying hospitals as follows:

1 1. For qualifying hospitals staffing qualified emergency room
2 physicians at least fifty percent (50%) of facility's operating
3 hours, an annual grant amount shall not exceed One Million Dollars
4 (\$1,000,000.00); and

5 2. For qualifying hospitals staffing qualified emergency room
6 physicians for less than fifty percent (50%) of facility operating
7 hours, an annual grant amount shall not exceed Five Hundred Thousand
8 Dollars (\$500,000.00).

9 D. No grant shall be awarded or paid under the provisions of
10 this act that would exceed the available, unencumbered balance of
11 the Rural Emergency Room Access to Care and Facilities Improvements
12 Act.

13 E. The State Department of Health may promulgate rules as
14 needed to implement the provisions of the Rural Emergency Room
15 Access to Care and Facilities Improvements Act.

16 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

17 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
18 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
19 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
20 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

21 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
22 April 12, 2023 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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