

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 1321
Version:	Committee Substitute
Request Number:	7829
Author:	Speaker McCall
Date:	3/21/2023
Impact:	Subject to Appropriations

Research Analysis

The committee substitute to HB 1321 creates the Rural Emergency Room Access to Care and Facilities Improvements Act. The measure creates "Rural Emergency Room Access to Care and Facilities Improvements Revolving Fund" within the State Treasury for the State Department of Health to be expended by the Department of Health to provide grants to qualifying facilities.

- Qualifying hospitals with a staffing of qualified emergency room physicians during at least 50% of the facility's operating hours can qualify for an annual grant of up to \$1,000,000.
- Qualifying hospitals with a staffing of qualified emergency room physicians during less than 50% of the facility's operating hours can qualify for an annual grant of up to \$500,000.

No grant is to be awarded that would exceed the available, unencumbered balance of the Fund.

Prepared By: Brad Wolgamott

Fiscal Analysis

HB 1321 in its current form creates the Rural Emergency Room Access to Care and Facilities Improvements Act. The measure creates the Rural Emergency Room Access to Care and Facilities Improvements Revolving Fund, and a grant program to be administered by the State Department of Health. The measure provides that grants are only awarded from available funds in the Revolving Fund. The measure merely creates the Revolving Fund, it does not appropriate funds to the Revolving Fund. For this reason the measure has no direct fiscal impact. An additional measure making an appropriation would be required to activate the program.

Prepared By: John McPhetridge, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.