

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 2176

Barcode 315940

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Ways and Means (Villalobos) recommended the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

On page 29, lines 4-23, delete those lines

and insert:

(3) Any remaining funds may ~~shall~~ annually be disbursed to financially distressed rural hospitals in accordance with this section. The Department of Health shall establish, by rule, criteria for awarding grants for any remaining funds, which must be used exclusively for the support and assistance of rural hospitals as defined in s. 395.602, including criteria relating to the level of charity uncompensated care rendered by the hospital, the financial status of the hospital, the performance standards of the hospital, the hospital's participation in a rural health network as defined in s. 381.0406, and the proposed use of the grant by the rural hospital to resolve a specific problem. The department must consider any information submitted in an application for the grants in accordance with subsection (1)

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1 in determining eligibility for and the amount of the grant,
2 ~~and none of the individual items of information by itself may~~
3 ~~be used to deny grant eligibility.~~

4 (4) To receive any of the remaining funds, a
5 financially distressed rural hospital must agree to be bound
6 by the terms of a participation agreement with the department,
7 which may include:

8 (a) The appointment of a health care expert under
9 contract with the department to analyze and monitor the
10 hospital's operations during the period of distress.

11 (b) The establishment of minimum standards for the
12 education and experience of the managers and administrators of
13 the hospital.

14 (c) The oversight and monitoring of a strategic plan
15 to restore the hospital to an economically stable condition or
16 to effect a transition to an alternative means of providing
17 services.

18 (d) The establishment of an orientation and
19 development program for members of the board.

20 (e) The approval of any facility relocation plans.

21 (5)(4) The department shall ensure that the funds are
22 used solely for the purposes specified in this section. The
23 total grants awarded pursuant to this section shall not exceed
24 the amount appropriated for this program.

27 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

28 And the title is amended as follows:

29 On page 2, line 27, after the semicolon,

30
31 insert:

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1 authorizing the Department of Health to award
2 grants for remaining funds to financially
3 distressed rural hospitals; requiring a
4 financially distressed rural hospital to be
5 bound by certain terms of a participation
6 agreement in order to receive remaining funds;

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