

By: Anchia

H.B. No. 281

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to grants for school-based health centers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 38.063, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), (d), (e), (f), and (g) and adding Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

(a) Subject to the availability of federal or state appropriated funds, the commissioner of state ~~[public]~~ health services shall administer a program under which grants are awarded to assist school districts and local health departments, hospitals, or nonprofit organizations that contract with school districts with the costs of ~~[operating]~~ school-based health centers in accordance with this section.

(b) The commissioner of state ~~[public]~~ health services, by rules adopted in accordance with this section, shall establish procedures for awarding grants. The rules must provide that:

(1) grants are awarded annually ~~[to school districts on an annual basis]~~ through a competitive process to:

(A) school districts; and

(B) local health departments, hospitals, or nonprofit organizations that have contracted with school districts to establish and operate school-based health centers;

(2) subject to the availability of federal or state appropriated funds, each grant is for a term of five years; and

1 (3) a preference is given to school-based health
2 centers in school districts that are located in rural areas or that
3 have low property wealth per student.

4 (d) A school district, local health department, hospital,
5 or nonprofit organization may not receive more than \$250,000 per
6 state fiscal biennium through grants awarded under this section.

7 (e) To be eligible to receive a grant, a school district,
8 local health department, hospital, or nonprofit organization must
9 provide matching funds in accordance with rules adopted under
10 Subsection (b). The matching funds may be obtained from any source
11 available to the district, local health department, hospital, or
12 nonprofit organization, including in-kind contributions, community
13 or foundation grants, individual contributions, and local
14 governmental agency operating funds.

15 (e-1) A school district, local health department, hospital,
16 or nonprofit organization receiving a grant under this section may
17 use the grant funds to:

18 (1) establish a new school-based health center;

19 (2) expand an existing school-based health center; or

20 (3) operate a school-based health center.

21 (f) The commissioner of state [~~public~~] health services
22 shall adopt rules establishing standards for health care centers
23 funded through grants that place primary emphasis on delivery of
24 health services and secondary emphasis on population-based models
25 that prevent emerging health threats.

26 (g) The commissioner of state [~~public~~] health services
27 shall require client surveys to be conducted in school-based health

1 centers funded through grants awarded under this section, and the
2 results of those surveys must be included in the annual report
3 required under Section 38.064.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.