

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 23, 2025

3 **AS AMENDED**

4 ENGROSSED HOUSE

5 BILL NO. 2754

6 By: Caldwell (Trey) and Pae of
7 the House

8 and

9 Alvord of the Senate

10 [public health - Grant Program - administration -
11 procedures, criteria, and limitations - promulgations
12 of rules and procedures - revolving fund -
13 codification - effective date -
14 **emergency]**

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-299A of Title 63, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma
20 Rural Hospitals Funding Assistance Grant Program Act of 2025".

21 B. There is hereby established the Oklahoma Rural Hospitals
22 Funding Assistance Grant Program.

1 C. As used in the Oklahoma Rural Hospitals Funding Assistance
2 Grant Program Act of 2025: "Adequate medical care facilities" means
3 facilities that:

4 1. Would meet or meets the eligibility of a federally qualified
5 critical access hospital;

6 2. Are located in a town or municipality with fewer than five
7 thousand (5,000) population according to the most recent Federal
8 Decennial Census; and

9 3. Is owned by a public trust organized under the laws of this
10 state or by a town or municipality of this state.

11 D. The State Department of Health shall administer the Oklahoma
12 Rural Hospitals Funding Assistance Grant Program to support the
13 state purpose of ensuring the health and safety of the residents of
14 the state by facilitating adequate access to health care services in
15 rural areas of the state. Such grant program shall embody the
16 following procedures, criteria, and limitations:

17 1. The Department shall develop a rubric of analysis and
18 accompanying application process to identify and prioritize rural
19 areas for grant funding, where such populations are
20 disproportionately impacted from accessing adequate medical care
21 facilities, due to distance;

22 2. No grant amount shall be awarded by the Department under the
23 provisions of this act that would exceed the cumulative total of
24 funds directed for deposit to the Oklahoma Rural Hospitals Funding

1 Assistance Grant Program Revolving Fund created by Section 2 of this
2 act.

3 E. The State Department of Health is hereby authorized to adopt
4 rules and procedures as necessary to carry out the provisions of
5 this act.

6 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
7 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-299B of Title 63, unless there
8 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

9 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund
10 for the State Department of Health to be designated the "Oklahoma
11 Rural Hospitals Funding Assistance Grant Program Revolving Fund".
12 The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year
13 limitations, and shall consist of all monies directed for deposit to
14 the fund by law. All monies accruing to the credit of said fund are
15 hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the State
16 Department of Health in accordance with the provisions provided in
17 Section 1 of this act. Expenditures from said fund shall be made
18 upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as
19 prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and
20 Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

21 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

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

3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
4 April 23, 2025 - DO PASS

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