

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 HOUSE BILL 2754

By: Caldwell (Trey)

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to public health; creating the
8 Oklahoma Rural Hospitals Funding Assistance Grant
9 Program Act of 2025; establishing the Oklahoma Rural
10 Hospitals Funding Assistance Grant Program; defining
11 terms; providing for administration of program by
12 State Department of Health; establishing purpose;
13 providing procedures, criteria, and limitations for
14 program; authorizing the promulgations of rules and
15 procedures; creating the Oklahoma Rural Hospitals
16 Funding Assistance Grant Program Revolving Fund;
17 establishing revolving fund characteristics;
18 providing budgeting and expenditure procedures and
19 limitations; providing an effective date; and
20 declaring an emergency.

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

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

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

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

1 C. As used in the Oklahoma Rural Hospitals Funding Assistance
2 Grant Program Act of 2025: "Adequated 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.

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