

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 329

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to States for the creation or enhancement of systems for the air transport of rural victims of medical emergencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 1993

Mr. ROBERTS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to States for the creation or enhancement of systems for the air transport of rural victims of medical emergencies, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Rural Medical Emer-
5 gencies Air Transport Act of 1993”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO STATES REGARDING AIRCRAFT FOR**
2 **TRANSPORTING RURAL VICTIMS OF MEDICAL**
3 **EMERGENCIES.**

4 Title XII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
5 300d et seq.) is amended by adding at the end thereof
6 the following new part:

7 “PART D—MISCELLANEOUS GRANT PROGRAMS AND
8 REQUIREMENTS

9 “SEC. 1241. GRANTS FOR SYSTEMS TO TRANSPORT RURAL
10 VICTIMS OF MEDICAL EMERGENCIES.

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants
12 to States to assist such States in the creation or enhance-
13 ment of air medical transport systems that provide victims
14 of medical emergencies in rural areas with access to treat-
15 ments for the injuries or other conditions resulting from
16 such emergencies.

17 “(b) APPLICATION AND PLAN.—

18 “(1) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a
19 grant under subsection (a), a State shall prepare
20 and submit to the Secretary an application in such
21 form, made in such manner, and containing such
22 agreements, assurances, and information, including
23 a State plan as required in paragraph (2), as the
24 Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out
25 this section.

1 “(2) STATE PLAN.—An application submitted
2 under paragraph (1) shall contain a State plan that
3 shall—

4 “(A) describe the intended uses of the
5 grant proceeds and the geographic areas to be
6 served;

7 “(B) demonstrates that the geographic
8 areas to be served, as described under subpara-
9 graph (A), are rural in nature;

10 “(C) demonstrate that there is a lack of
11 facilities available and equipped to deliver ad-
12 vanced levels of medical care in the geographic
13 areas to be served;

14 “(D) demonstrate that in utilizing the
15 grant proceeds for the establishment or en-
16 hancement of air medical services the State
17 would be making a cost-effective improvement
18 to existing ground-based or air emergency medi-
19 cal service systems;

20 “(E) demonstrate that the State will not
21 utilize the grant proceeds to duplicate the capa-
22 bilities of existing air medical systems that are
23 effectively meeting the emergency medical needs
24 of the populations they serve;

1 “(F) demonstrate that in utilizing the
2 grant proceeds the State is likely to achieve a
3 reduction in the morbidity and mortality rates
4 of the areas to be served, as determined by the
5 Secretary;

6 “(G) demonstrate that the State, in utiliz-
7 ing the grant proceeds, will—

8 “(i) maintain the expenditures of the
9 State for air and ground medical transport
10 systems at a level equal to not less than
11 the level of such expenditures maintained
12 by the State for the fiscal year preceding
13 the fiscal year for which the grant is re-
14 ceived; and

15 “(ii) ensure that recipients of direct
16 financial assistance from the State under
17 such grant will maintain expenditures of
18 such recipients for such systems at a level
19 at least equal to the level of such expendi-
20 tures maintained by such recipients for the
21 fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for
22 which the financial assistance is received;

23 “(H) demonstrate that persons experienced
24 in the field of air medical service delivery were
25 consulted in the preparation of the State plan;

1 “(I) contain such other information as the
2 Secretary may determine appropriate.

3 “(c) CONSIDERATIONS IN AWARDING GRANTS.—In
4 determining whether to award a grant to a State under
5 this section, the Secretary shall—

6 “(1) consider the rural nature of the areas to
7 be served with the grant proceeds and the services
8 to be provided with such proceeds, as identified in
9 the State plan submitted under subsection (b); and

10 “(2) give preference to States with State plans
11 that demonstrate an effective integration of the pro-
12 posed air medical transport systems into a com-
13 prehensive network or plan for regional or statewide
14 emergency medical service delivery.

15 “(d) STATE ADMINISTRATION AND USE OF
16 GRANT.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not
18 make a grant to a State under subsection (a) unless
19 the State agrees that such grant will be adminis-
20 tered by the State agency with principal responsibil-
21 ity for carrying out programs regarding the provi-
22 sion of medical services to victims of medical emer-
23 gencies or trauma.

24 “(2) PERMITTED USES.—A State may use
25 amounts received under a grant awarded under this

1 section to award subgrants to public and private en-
2 tities operating within the State.

3 “(3) OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.—

4 The Secretary may not make a grant to a State
5 under subsection (a) unless that State agrees that,
6 in developing and carrying out the State plan under
7 subsection (b)(2), the State will provide public notice
8 with respect to the plan (including any revisions
9 thereto) and facilitate comments from interested
10 persons.

11 “(e) NUMBER OF GRANTS.—The Secretary shall
12 award grants under this section to not less than 7 States.

13 “(f) REPORTS.—

14 “(1) REQUIREMENT.—A State that receives a
15 grant under this section shall annually (during each
16 year in which the grant proceeds are used) prepare
17 and submit to the Secretary a report that shall con-
18 tain—

19 “(A) a description of the manner in which
20 the grant proceeds were utilized;

21 “(B) a description of the effectiveness of
22 the air medical transport programs assisted
23 with grant proceeds; and

24 “(C) such other information as the Sec-
25 retary may require.

1 “(2) TERMINATION OF FUNDING.—In reviewing
2 reports submitted under paragraph (1), if the Sec-
3 retary determines that a State is not using amounts
4 provided under a grant awarded under this section
5 in accordance with the State plan submitted by the
6 State under subsection (b), the Secretary may termi-
7 nate the payment of amounts under such grant to
8 the State until such time as the Secretary deter-
9 mines that the State comes into compliance with
10 such plan.

11 “(g) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term
12 ‘rural areas’ means geographic areas that are located out-
13 side of standard metropolitan statistical areas, as identi-
14 fied by the Secretary.

15 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated to make grants under
17 this section, \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 1994, and such
18 sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1995
19 and 1996.

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