

HB 1925 -- RURAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER GRANTS

SPONSOR: Morse

This bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) to, subject to appropriations, establish a rural health care professional grant program that provides incentives for certain health care professionals to practice and reside in rural counties, defined as counties with fewer than 35,000 inhabitants, after August 28, 2024. The Department must post eligibility criteria, contents of the grant application, and procedures and time lines by which health care professionals may apply for grants to enter into a grant agreement with DHSS. Provisions of grant agreements include that the health care professional must practice and reside in the rural county for a period of five years and a statement of damages to which the state is entitled should the health care professional breach the grant agreement.

This bill establishes the "Rural Health Care Professional Grant Program Fund". Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for awarding grants and administering the grant program.

The program expires August 28, 2034.