

HOUSE BILL NO. 1152

Introduced by

Representatives Devlin, Vigesaa, J. Nelson, Kaldor

Senators Christmann, Robinson

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a critical access hospital grant; and to provide an appropriation.

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

3 **SECTION 1. CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL GRANTS.**

4 1. During the 2011-13 biennium, the state department of health shall contract with a third
5 party, such as the North Dakota hospital association, to administer a grant program for
6 critical access hospitals. The administrative costs of the party administering the grant
7 program may not exceed the lesser of actual direct costs or five percent of the grant
8 program appropriation. The party administering the grant program may establish a
9 committee to review grant applications and to make grant award determinations.

10 2. In order to qualify for a grant under this section, an applicant must be a critical access
11 hospital in the state which has not previously received a grant under this section. A
12 grant application must specify how grant funds will be utilized by the recipient, include
13 requested fiscal and demographic information, and include any supporting
14 documentation required by the party administering the grant program.

15 3. Grant funds must be used for quality of care issues, which may include facility
16 improvements, patient care needs, and patient care equipment needs and for
17 implementation of health information technology and electronic medical records.

18 4. A grant award may not exceed five hundred thousand dollars per recipient. As a
19 condition of receipt of a grant under this section, a recipient shall agree that during the
20 2011-13 biennium the recipient will provide the grant administrator with periodic
21 reports on the status and use of the grant funds distributed. The grant administrator
22 shall provide the state department of health with status reports on the grant program
23 and on recipient postaward reports. A grant award may be distributed to a qualified
24 recipient over the course of the 2011-13 biennium as may be provided under the terms

1 of the grant award. If the state department of health determines a recipient has used
2 grant funds in a manner inconsistent with the terms of this section or of the grant
3 award, the recipient shall return that portion of the award to the state department of
4 health.

5 5. The name of a grant applicant, the name of a grant recipient, the amount of grant
6 funds awarded, and the amount of grant funds distributed are public information.
7 However, material in a grant application or postaward report may be exempt or
8 confidential under section 44-04-18.4.

9 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
10 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$18,000,000, or so much of
11 the sum as may be necessary, to the state department of health for the purpose of providing
12 grants to critical access hospitals under section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1,
13 2011, and ending June 30, 2013.