
AN ACT to repeal 20.435 (1) (fg); and to create 20.435 (1) (fg) of the statutes; relating to: grants for creation of rural wellness facilities and programs and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau
This bill requires the Department of Health Services to distribute $500,000 in grant moneys to hospitals located in a rural area or health systems with a hospital or clinic located in a rural area for wellness facilities and programs in rural Wisconsin. The department must distribute a minimum of two grants and each grant may be up to $250,000. In order to qualify for a grant, an applicant must have demonstrated that matching funds will be available for the program or facility that is the subject of the grant application and that the program or facility that is the subject of the grant application is targeted to address community health needs identified by the applicant’s community needs assessment, including chronic illness management, occupational health services, and rehabilitation services.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert the following amounts for the purposes indicated:
20.435 Health services, department of

(1) Public Health Services Planning, Regulation, and Delivery

(fg) Grants to establish rural wellness facilities and programs

GPR C 500,000 -0-

**SECTION 2.** 20.435 (1) (fg) of the statutes is created to read:

20.435 (1) (fg) Grants to establish rural wellness facilities and programs. As a continuing appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for grants under 2017 Wisconsin Act .... (this act), section 4 (1).

**SECTION 3.** 20.435 (1) (fg) of the statutes, as created by 2017 Wisconsin Act .... (this act), is repealed.

**SECTION 4. Nonstatutory provisions.**

(1) Rural wellness facility and program grants.

(a) In this subsection, “rural area” means all of the following:

1. A city, town, or village in this state that has a population of less than 20,000 and that is at least 15 miles from any city, town, or village that has a population of at least 20,000.

2. An area in this state that is not an urbanized area, as defined by the federal bureau of the census.

(b) From the appropriation under section 20.435 (1) (fg) of the statutes, subject to paragraph (c), the department of health services shall distribute grants in the total amount of $500,000 for recipients to establish wellness facilities and programs in rural areas. The department shall distribute the grants under this subsection to any
of the following applicants that apply, in the form and manner determined by the department, to receive grants and that satisfy the requirements under paragraph (c):

1. Hospitals located in a rural area.

2. Health systems with a hospital or clinic located in a rural area.

(c) The department of health services shall award no fewer than 2 grants and may distribute up to $250,000 per grant. The department shall require an applicant to demonstrate both of the following in order to qualify for a grant awarded under this subsection:

1. Funds will be available to match the amount of the grant received for the program or facility that is the subject of the grant application.

2. The program or facility that is the subject of the grant application is targeted to address community health needs identified by the applicant’s community needs assessment, including chronic illness management, occupational health services, rehabilitation services, and wellness and prevention services.

SECTION 5. Effective dates. This act takes effect on the day after publication, or on the 2nd day after publication of the 2017 biennial budget act, whichever is later, except as follows:

(1) The repeal of section 20.435 (1) (fg) of the statutes takes effect on July 1, 2023.