

House Bill 262

By: Representatives O'Steen of the 169<sup>th</sup>, Burchett of the 176<sup>th</sup>, Campbell of the 171<sup>st</sup>, Corbett of the 174<sup>th</sup>, and LaHood of the 175<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 Department of Community Health, so as to provide for a grant program for the purpose of  
3 acquiring and installing backup generators; to provide that the department shall consult with  
4 the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency in establishing grant  
5 criteria; to provide for the department to establish grant amounts; to provide for a definition;  
6 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 2 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department  
10 of Community Health, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

11 "31-2-20.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'critical access hospital' shall have the same  
13 meaning as provided in Code Section 31-8-9.1.

14 (b) Subject to appropriations by the General Assembly or other available funding, the  
15 department shall establish a grant program to provide funding to critical access hospitals  
16 for the purpose of acquiring and installing backup generators. The department, in

17 consultation with the director of emergency management and homeland security shall  
18 establish grant criteria and make award decisions; provided, however, that the department  
19 and the director of emergency management and homeland security shall, to the greatest  
20 extent possible, prioritize the approval of applications of those critical access hospitals  
21 lacking a backup generator. The department shall be authorized to establish the grant  
22 amount awarded to each recipient on a case-by-case basis."

23 **SECTION 2.**

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.