

REFERENCE TITLE: appropriation; grants; medical debt

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2023

HB 2679

Introduced by
Representatives De Los Santos: Aguilar, Austin, Gutierrez, Hernandez L,
Hernandez M, Ortiz, Salman, Sandoval, Stahl Hamilton, Sun, Travers,
Senator Mendez

AN ACT

APPROPRIATING MONIES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
2 Section 1. Appropriation; department of health services;
3 grants; medical debt; study; intent; exemption
4 A. The sum of \$30,000,000 is appropriated from the state general
5 fund in fiscal year 2023-2024 to the department of health services to
6 award grants to pay medical debt.
7 B. The department shall use the monies appropriated by this section
8 to award grants pursuant to title 41, chapter 24, Arizona Revised
9 Statutes, to individuals in this state who have medical debt.
10 C. On or before September 1, 2025, the department shall conduct a
11 study to determine the new purposes that individuals who were awarded
12 grants pursuant to this section were able to put the monies that would
13 otherwise have previously been spent to pay medical debt. The department
14 may contract with a university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board
15 of regents to conduct the study. The department shall submit a copy of
16 the study to the secretary of state.
17 D. The legislature intends that:
18 1. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section be
19 considered ongoing funding in future years.
20 2. This state pay all outstanding medical debt in this state.
21 E. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt
22 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating
23 to lapsing of appropriations.