- 1 HB446
- 2 191531-4
- 3 By Representatives Shedd, Standridge, Morrow, Farley and
- 4 Warren
- 5 RFD: Urban and Rural Development
- 6 First Read: 22-FEB-18

1	ENGROSSED
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4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	Relating to health care; to create the Alabama Rural
9	Hospital Resource Center, within the University of Alabama at
10	Birmingham; to provide staffing and reporting requirements for
11	the resource center; to create a rural administrative
12	residency program; and to establish the areas in which the
13	resource center may support participating rural hospitals.
14	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
15	Section 1. (a) The University of Alabama at
16	Birmingham shall establish the Alabama Rural Hospital Resource
17	Center.
18	(b) The purpose of the resource center is to
19	facilitate access to high quality care for rural Alabamians
20	and improve their health by increasing the viability and
21	capabilities of eligible hospitals at no or minimal cost to
22	those hospitals.
23	(c) For the purposes of this section, the following
24	terms shall have the following meanings:
25	(1) ELIGIBLE HOSPITAL. A nonprofit or public rural
26	hospital.

1 (2) RESOURCE CENTER. The Rural Hospital Resource 2 Center of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. (3) RURAL. Located in one of the following: 3 a. An area designated as a shortage area as defined 4 5 in 42 C.F.R. § 491.5(c) and (d); or b. A rural area as defined by the Federal Office of 6 7 Rural Health Policy. (d) The resource center shall do all of the 8 9 following: 10 (1) Hire necessary staff. 11 (2) Act as a resource for the Alabama Rural Hospital 12 Global Budget Board, which includes providing technical 13 assistance and assisting in the development of global 14 payments. 15 (3) (2) Annually submit a report to the Legislature, 16 State Finance Director, and Medicaid Commissioner regarding 17 the effectiveness of the resource center. The report shall 18 include all of the following: a. The financial improvement of participating 19 20 hospitals. 21 b. Satisfaction survey results from the management 22 team and board of directors of each participating hospital. c. Improvements in the quality of participating 23 24 hospitals. 25 d. Improvements in access to care. 26 e. Improvements in health status.

1 (4) (3) Establish a rural administrative residency 2 program by working with the Graduate Program in Health Administration of the University of Alabama at Birmingham and 3 pursuing funding for administrative residents who wish to work 4 in rural health care. 5 (e) The resource center may provide support to 6 7 participating eligible hospitals in all of the following 8 areas, with priority being given to hospitals participating in 9 the global budget model: areas: 10 (1) Compliance. (2) Coding. 11 12 (3) Purchasing and supply chain. 13 (4) Quality. 14 (5) Strategic planning. 15 (6) Provider recruitment. 16 (7) Cost report. 17 (8) Insurance. 18 (9) Any other area that furthers the purpose of the resource center. 19 20 Section 2. The obligations imposed by this act shall 21 not be implemented within the University of Alabama at 22 Birmingham until formally approved by the University of Alabama at Birmingham and sufficient funds for the purposes 23 24 set forth in this act are provided through the Governor or 25 appropriated by the Legislature, and thereafter shall only be implemented to the extent that funds are appropriated. 26

Section 3. This act shall become effective
immediately following its passage and approval by the
Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3	House of Representatives	
4 5 6 7 8	Read for the first time and re- ferred to the House of Representa- tives committee on Urban and Rural Development	22-FEB-18
9 10 11	Read for the second time and placed on the calendar 1 amendment	08-MAR-18
12 13	Read for the third time and passed as amended	13-MAR-18
14	Yeas 101, Nays O, Abstains O	

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Jeff Woodard Clerk