



Texas Legislative Update

Presentation to the TxHIMA 2017 Convention

Nora Belcher, Executive Director

Texas e-Health Alliance

June 30, 2017

Presentation Outline

- Quick Refresher on 2015
- Update on 2017
 - Overview
 - Passed Bills
 - Bills that Didn't Pass
 - Special Session/Legislative Interim

Quick Refresher on 2015

- **HB 2461**
 - Established the use of standards for HHS systems
 - Enabled public health reporting via HIE
 - Added liability protection for physicians accessing data via HIE
 - Requires HHSC to report on progress towards interoperability
- **HB 3491**
 - Extended remote patient monitoring benefit for Medicaid until 2019

Quick Refresher on 2015

- SB 207
 - Cooperative effort between Teaching Hospitals of Texas, TxHIMA, Children's Hospital Association of Texas, American Hospital Association, and the Texas Office of the Inspector General
 - Requires Medicaid auditors and their contractors to adhere to the same federal coding guidelines that hospital coders are required to follow by federal law.

How Many Bills This Time?

85th Regular Session - 2017										
Status	HB	HCR	HJR	HR	SB	SCR	SJR	SR	Total HB & SB	Total
Introduced	4333	138	111	2707	2298	64	58	963	6631	10672
Passed	700	68	3	2682	511	29	6	961	1211	4960
Vetoed	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	0

84th Regular Session - 2015										
Status	HB	HCR	HJR	HR	SB	SCR	SJR	SR	Total HB & SB	Total
Introduced	4207	122	133	3632	2069	52	67	1074	6276	11356
Passed	819	68	2	3581	504	32	5	1072	1323	6083
Vetoed	32	1	n/a	n/a	9	0	n/a	n/a	41	42

“Tele” Bills

Bill #	Author	Subject
SB 1107	Schwertner	Direct to consumer telemedicine, insurance coverage for telemedicine
HB 1697	Price	Pediatric access grant program for rural areas (teleNICU)
SB 922	Buckingham	Telemedicine in schools (incl. charter) for SHARS
SB 1633	Perry	Telepharmacy for rural areas

Delivery System Bills

Bill #	Author	Subject
HB 10	Price	Mental health treatment
HB 1296	Frullo	Prescription drug synchronization
HB 2425	Price	Designated caregiver- discharge instructions

Cybersecurity Bills

Bill #	Author	Subject
HB 8	Capriglione	Cybersecurity for state agencies
HB 9	Capriglione	Cybercrime
HB 1861	Elkins	Confidentiality of computer security incidents under open records laws
SB 564	Campbell	Allows non-open meetings discussions of IT security by government entities

Privacy Bills

Bill #	Author	Subject
HB 1543	Burkett	Access to hearing instrument records
HB 2891	Smithee	Release of PHI related to liability claims- prescribed format

Efficiency Bills

Bill #	Author	Subject
HB 630	Howard	Requires Internet broadcast of HHS meetings
HB 1290	Roberts	Repeal a rule before passing a rule
HB 2463	Price	Requires agency succession plans
HB 3047	Dale	Attendance by conference call still a quorum if call drops

Bills that Didn't Pass

- Privacy bills
 - Liability for mental health info release
- Bills to make access to EHRs free for patients
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program bills
- ImmTrac consent bills
- Efficiency studies related to the state's use of paper, access to electronic records, and digital storage

Special Session

- Governor Abbott has called a special session of the legislature starting July 18th
 - First order of business: the Senate must pass a bill that reauthorizes the Texas Medical Board, Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners, Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists, Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, and the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors
 - 19 other items ranging from property tax relief to school vouchers would then be eligible

Legislative Interim

- HHSC e-Health Advisory committee meets quarterly
 - Meetings are broadcast online
 - Covers HIE and telemedicine issues
- SB 1107 rulemaking between the Texas Medical Board, the Texas State Board of Pharmacy, the Texas Board of Nursing, and the Texas Physician Assistant Board



Questions?

Nora Belcher

Executive Director

Texas e-Health Alliance

nora@txeha.org

(512) 536-1340