

ENACTED BILLS - 81ST LEGISLATURE

	Number	Author	Sponsor
SAFETY AND PREVENTION			
Transportation Safety Measures			
Requires children younger than 8 or shorter than 4'9" to be secured in a child safety seat.	SB 61	Zaffirini	Vaught
Extends the offense for failure to secure children in a vehicle to 15-passenger vans. Establishes an offense for transporting a child younger than 5 on a motorcycle. Requires Medicaid transportation contractors to provide safety seat systems. Extends the offense for riding in a vehicle while not secured to adults in the back seat (age 17 and older).	HB 537	Berman	Eltife
Bans drivers under age 18 from using hand-held cell phones (except for emergencies). Extends time period from 6 months to 12 months that drivers under age 18 may not drive between midnight and 5:00 AM or drive with more than one passenger under age 21 (other than family members). Sets minimum requirements for driver's education course, including a road test for applicants under age 18.	HB 339	Phillips	Carona
Prohibits use of hand-held cell phones while driving in school zones (except for emergencies).	HB 55	Branch	Carona
Newborn Screening			
Requires DSHS to expand screening to include disorders listed in the secondary targets of the uniform newborn screening panel recommended by the American College of Genetics (24 additional disorders).	HB 1795	Pierson	Uresti
Requires health care professionals to disclose the process for screening and storage of blood samples. Allows parents to refuse storage of blood samples and use for research.	HB 1672	Crownover	Deuell
Velocardialfacial Syndrome			
Requires HHSC to provide information regarding velocardiofacial syndrome to agency staff and parents.	SB 1612	Lucio	Rodriguez
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)			
Requires health professionals providing pregnancy-related care to provide a resource manual to parents that includes information on SIDS, including recommendations on infant sleeping conditions.	HB 1510	Bonnen	Jackson
Medications for Young Children			
Requires HHSC to conduct a study by 11/10/10 analyzing the safety and appropriateness of providing antipsychotic and neuroleptic medications to children in Medicaid younger than 16.	HB 2163	Turner	Uresti
Immunization Registry			
Expands the registry to allow individuals 18 and over to maintain and update information.	SB 346	Nelson	Kolkhorst

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<p>Diabetes Mellitus Registry Requires DSHS to create an electronic registry to track the glycosylated hemoglobin level of voluntary patients. Requires physicians to submit diagnostic codes of patients with lab requests.</p>	HB 1363	Gutierrez	Van de Putte
<p>School Health Requires the physical education curriculum to be sequential and developmentally appropriate and that at least 50% of PE class time (weekly) be used for physical activity (at a moderate or vigorous level to the extent practicable). Establishes student/teacher ratios for physical education classes.</p>	SB 891	Nelson	Eissler
<p>Requires State Board of Education to adopt health enrichment curriculum that addresses the dangers, causes, consequences, signs, symptoms, and treatment of binge drinking and alcohol poisoning.</p>	SB 1344	Watson	Eissler
<p>Nutrition Establishes grant programs to prevent obesity at the Texas Department of Agriculture for public school campuses and participants in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Head Start and other early childhood programs that incorporate nutrition education.</p>	SB 282	Nelson	Eissler
<p>Directs HHSC and DSHS to establish a pilot program to decrease obesity rates among Medicaid and CHIP recipients by improving nutritional choices and increasing physical activity.</p>	SB 870	Lucio	Castro
<p>Water Safety Requires owners, operators, managers or responsible attendants of public pools to comply with federal safety standards. Requires owners and operators to maintain water features and fountains according to certain sanitary standards established by DSHS.</p>	SB 1732	West	Harless
	SB 968	West	Truitt
<p>Tanning Facilities Prohibits a person younger than 16 1/2 from using a tanning device. Prohibits a person 16 1/2 to 18 from using a tanning device without in-person, written consent from a parent or guardian.</p>	HB 1310	Solomons	Nelson
COVERAGE			
<p>Medicaid Buy-in for Disabled Children Extends eligibility to disabled children in families with less than 300% FPL using a sliding fee scale.</p>	SB 187	Deuell	Lucio III
<p>TIERS Functionality Requires HHSC to conduct a thorough analysis of the staff necessary to perform eligibility determinations for health and human services, with attention to seamless transfers between Medicaid</p>	HB 3859	Herrero	Deuell

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and CHIP and benchmarks for timeliness and accuracy.			
Autism Services Directs HHSC to establish an autism spectrum disorders resource center to collect and distribute information, conduct training and development activities, and provide support to affected families. Extends the age range that health benefit plans must provide coverage from the time of diagnosis through age 9 (from age 2 through 5).	HB 1574	Thompson	Gallegos
	HB 451	Allen	Lucio
Healthy Texas Program + TexLink to Health Coverage Creates a reinsurance pool for small employers administered by the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI). Insurers would be responsible for payments up to \$5,000 per individual per year, after which the Healthy Texas Fund would reimburse for 80% of claims (up to \$75,000 per individual). Requires TDI to promote awareness and education about the purchase and availability of health coverage through strategies directed at small employers and individuals.	SB 78	Nelson	Smithee
Health Coverage for Children Receiving Child Support Requires the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to implement a statewide program to provide health insurance to children in Title IV-D cases for whom neither parent has access to affordable health care. Directs OAG to contract with a third-party administrator to operate the program.	SB 865	Harris	Jackson, J.
Texas Health Insurance Risk Pool Premium Discounts Establishes a sliding fee scale based on financial need (200-300% FPL), with discounts funded by a portion of penalties and interest related to late claim payments from HMOs and PPOs.	HB 2064	Smithee	Averitt
COBRA Coverage Extends coverage from 6 months to 9 months to align with the coverage period available for the 65% premium assistance program under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.	SB 1771	Duncan	Eiland
Health Care for Clinical Trial Participants Establishes health plan coverage for routine patient care costs for individuals with life-threatening illnesses participating in certain clinical trials.	SB 39	Zaffirini	Zerwas
Point of Service Medical Information Requires health benefit plans to use technology to provide information to enrollees and physicians or health care providers at the point of service (including copay and deductible amounts).	HB 1342	Menendez	Harris
Mediation of Out-of-Network Claims Requires facility-based physicians to disclose information on the lack of contract and projected charge amount to preferred provider benefit plan enrollees. Establishes a mediation process for disputed claims exceeding \$1,000. Requires TDI to adopt network adequacy standards.	HB 2256	Hancock	Duncan
Coverage for Prosthetic Devices, Orthotic Devices and Related Services Requires health insurance plans to provide coverage equivalent to that provided by Medicare.	HB 806	Gallego	Zaffirini

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HEALTH CARE SYSTEM			
<p>Medical Child Abuse Resources and Education System (MEDCARES) Creates a grant program at DSHS to improve the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of child abuse and neglect.</p>	SB 2080	Uresti	McClendon
<p>Health Care Reform: Medicaid Quality-based Hospital Reimbursement Directs HHSC to develop a quality-based system for Medicaid reimbursement. Allows HHSC to modify data collection requirements for non-DRG reimbursed hospitals to more accurately classify patient populations, accounting for severity and risk. Electronic Health Information Exchange Requires HHSC to develop an electronic health information exchange for Medicaid and CHIP.</p>	HB 1218	Howard	Watson
<p>Alternative Reimbursement Methodology: Employees Retirement System Directs agency to implement a pilot program using alternative reimbursement methodologies.</p>	HB 4586	Pitti	Ogden
<p>E-prescribing Requires HHSC to develop an e-prescribing implementation plan for Medicaid and CHIP by 12/1/09.</p>	HB 1966	Davis	Nelson
<p>Health Care Associated Infections and Adverse Events Requires health care facilities and pediatric and adolescent hospitals to include the causative pathogen in reporting the incidence of surgical site infections (if the infection is laboratory-confirmed). Prohibits HHSC from reimbursing providers for services related to preventative adverse events for which Medicare does not provide payment. Allows HHSC to prohibit reimbursement for National Quality Forum (NQF) "never events." Expands DSHS' reporting system to include hospital-acquired conditions for which Medicare reduces DRG reimbursement, as well as NQF "never events."</p>	SB 203	Shapleigh	Coleman
<p>Nursing Workforce Establishes requirements on nurse staffing plans. Limits use of mandatory overtime. Allows waiver of sovereign immunity for retaliatory actions against a nurse. Authorizes the Higher Education Coordinating Board to provide grants to nursing schools based on performance related to graduation rates.</p>	SB 476	Nelson	Howard
	HB 4471	Kolkhorst	Nelson
<p>Hospital Employment of Physicians Authorizes government-operated hospitals in counties of 50,000 or less, as well as the Dallas County Hospital District, to employ physicians.</p>	HB 3485	Coleman	West

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<p>Physician Education Loan Repayment Program Raises the maximum limit to \$160,000 (over 4 years rather than 5). Changes eligibility criteria to being licensed, practicing in a health professional shortage area, and providing services to Medicaid or CHIP recipients. Taxes smokeless tobacco according to weight and establishes revenue for the loan program.</p>	<p>HB 2154</p>	<p>Edwards</p>	<p>Hinojosa</p>
<p>South Texas Medical School Establishes a health science center and medical school in South Texas by 2015.</p>	<p>SB 98</p>	<p>Lucio</p>	<p>Lucio III</p>
<p>Uniform Anatomical Gift Act Adopts national standards related to recovery of parts of deceased donors and establishes related criminal penalties.</p>	<p>HB 2027</p>	<p>Zerwas</p>	<p>Harris</p>