



Bill Research Report

05-31-2019 - 16:57:37

T HB 18

Price, Four(R)
Watson, Kirk(D)

Relating to consideration of the mental health of public school students in training requirements for certain school employees, curriculum requirements, counseling programs, educational programs.

General Remarks:

This bill would require school districts to implement evidence-based practices and trauma- and grief-informed care to their district improvement plans. It would also require continuing education for teachers and principals in educating students with mental health conditions, intellectual or developmental disabilities, and who engage in substance abuse. It would require mental health education to be part of health education. It would also require the state to develop guidelines for partnering with LMHAs and providers. Finally, it would require schools to notify parents if they do not have a counselor or school nurse.

Last Action:

5-17-19 G Sent to the Governor

T HB 19

Price, Four(R)
Watson, Kirk(D)

Relating to mental health and substance use resources for certain school districts.

General Remarks:

This bill would provide state funding to LMHAs to employ a non-physician mental health professional to serve as a resource for school districts in which the LMHA provides services.

HB 29

Minjarez, Ina(D)
Hughes, Bryan(R)

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

Relating to the regulation of the practice of physical therapy.

Companions:

HB 2118	Klick, Stephanie(R)	(Refiled from 85R Session)
SB 728	Taylor, Van(R)	(Refiled from 85R Session)
SB 732	Hughes, Bryan(R)	(Identical)

5-13-19 H Referred to House Committee on House Public Health

General Remarks: Currently, a physical therapist may treat an injured patient without a referral in emergency situations. They may also treat an injury with a referral from a provider. This bill would allow a physical therapist to treat an injury without a referral for 10 consecutive business days if the therapist has liability insurance and has a doctoral degree or 30 hours of continuing competency. If the PT has a doctoral degree and has completed a fellowship/residency they can treat w/o a referral for 15 consecutive business days.

Last Action: 5-28-19 G Sent to the Governor

HB 39

Zerwas, John(R)
Nelson, Jane(R)

Relating to the repeal of certain time limitations on the award of grants by the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Oversight Committee.

Companions:

SB 438	Nelson, Jane(R)	(Identical)
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4-17-19 S Withdrawn from the Local Calendar

General Remarks: This bill would repeal time limitations on grants to CPRIT.

Last Action: 5-24-19 G Earliest effective date

HB 80

Ortega, Lina(D)
Rodriguez, Jose(D)

Relating to a study and report regarding shortages in certain health professions.

General Remarks: This bill would require the state to conduct a study on shortages of doctorally-trained health professionals.

Last Action: 5-21-19 G Sent to the Governor

HB 111	Gonzalez, Mary(D) Fallon, Pat (F)(R)	Relating to training for employees of school districts and open-enrollment charter schools on the prevention of sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and other maltreatment of certain children.
	General Remarks:	This bill would add training on sexual abuse, trafficking, and other maltreatment of children with cognitive disabilities to training required for new school employees.
	Last Action:	5-17-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 123	White, James(R) Watson, Kirk(D)	Relating to the issuance of personal identification documents for foster children, homeless children or youth, and unaccompanied youth.
	General Remarks:	Refiled from 85R session. Companion to HB 454, which would create incentive funding for medical schools based on their ability to improve the health of persons in their area.
	Last Action:	5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 125	Martinez, Armando(D) Menendez, Jose(D)	Relating to the online publication of home addresses of certain occupational license holders.
	General Remarks:	This bill would prohibit mental health, speech therapists, chemical dependency counselors, social workers and licensed professional counselor boards from publishing the home addresses of license holders.
	Last Action:	9- 1-19 G Earliest effective date
HB 253	Farrar, Jessica(D) Kolkhorst, Lois(R)	Relating to a strategic plan to address postpartum depression.
	General Remarks:	This bill would require the Department to create a strategic plan to improve access to postpartum depression screening, referral, treatment, and support services.
	Last Action:	5-16-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 278	Oliverson, Tom(R) Perry, Charles(R)	Relating to the frequency and location of certain meetings required by a prescriptive authority agreement.
	Companions:	SB 311 Perry, Charles(R) (Identical) 3-12-19 S Committee action pending Senate Health and Human Services

 HB 387

Cortez, Philip(D)
Creighton, Brandon(R)

General Remarks: This bill would eliminate the quarterly, in-person meetings between an APRN with a PAA and a physician and allow them to be satisfied with a videoconference.

Last Action: 9- 1-19 G Earliest effective date

Relating to submission of reports by an advanced practice registered nurse under the workers' compensation system.

Companions: SB 1022 Creighton, Brandon(R) (Identical)
3- 7-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

General Remarks: This bill would allow physicians to delegate to an APRN the authority to complete and sign a work status report regarding an employee's ability to return to work.

Last Action: 5-24-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 448

Turner, Chris(D)
Zaffirini, Judith(D)

Relating to the creation of an offense for failing to secure certain children in a rear-facing child passenger safety seat system.

Companions: HB 519 Turner, Chris(D) (Refiled from 85R Session)
SB 278 Zaffirini, Judith(D) (Refiled from 85R Session)
SB 1524 Zaffirini, Judith(D) (Identical)
4-10-19 S Committee action pending Senate Transportation

General Remarks: This bill would create an offense for not putting a child under 2 years old in a rear-facing car seat.

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 476

Howard, Donna(D)
Menendez, Jose(D)

Relating to certain duties of public institutions of higher education and the Department of State Health Services regarding policies on the use of epinephrine auto-injectors by public institutions of higher education.

Companions: SB 1736 Menendez, Jose(D) (Identical)

		4-24-19 S Committee action pending Senate Higher Education
		Last Action: 9- 1-19 G Earliest effective date
		General Remarks: Requires higher ed institutions to publish epi pen policies in the student handbook and on the website and must submit the policy to DSHS.
HB 496	Gervin-Hawkins, Barbara(D) Lucio, Eddie(D)	Relating to the placement of bleeding control kits in public schools and to required training of school personnel.
		Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
		General Remarks: Requires all schools and districts to develop protocols for traumatic injury situations, including maintenance of bleeding control units, and train employees on the use of the units.
HB 531	Miller, Rick(R) Buckingham, Dawn(R)	Relating to the retention by hospitals and physicians of medical records of a sexual assault victim.
		General Remarks: This bill would prohibit hospitals and physicians from destroying records that relate to sexual assault of a patient until 15 years from the date the record was made or the date that the statute of limitations for that crime expires, whichever is earlier.
		Last Action: 5-21-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 616	Neave, Victoria(D) Nelson, Jane(R)	Relating to compensation for a portion of a forensic medical examination of a sexual assault survivor and for the evidence collection kit required for the examination.
		General Remarks: This bill would provide compensation to facilities that provide forensic medical examinations to sexual assault survivors if the examination is performed by a physician or a SANE nurse.
		Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 651	Springer, Drew(R) Kolkhorst, Lois(R)	Relating to the creation and operations of health care provider participation programs in counties not served by a hospital district or a public hospital.
		General Remarks: This bill would authorize counties without hospital districts to create health care provider participation programs to provide the

		nonfederal share of a Medicaid supplemental payment program.
	Last Action:	5-28-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 684	Clardy, Travis(R) Hughes, Bryan(R)	Relating to training requirements for public school nurses and certain other school personnel regarding seizure recognition and related first aid.
	Companions:	SB 1044 Hughes, Bryan(R) (Identical) 3- 7-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education
	General Remarks:	This bill would require school nurses to complete an online course regarding students with seizures.
	Last Action:	5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 871	Price, Four(R) Perry, Charles(R)	Relating to use of telemedicine medical service by certain trauma facilities.
	General Remarks:	This bill would allow facilities in counties with less than 30,000 people to satisfy the Level IV trauma facility designation requirements for physicians by allowing the required physician to provide telemedicine services or transfers of medical data to a physician, APRN, or PA.
	Last Action:	9- 1-19 G Earliest effective date
HB 906	Thompson, Senfronia(D) Powell, Beverly (F)(D)	Relating to the establishment of a collaborative task force to study certain public school mental health services.
	Companions:	SB 992 Powell, Beverly (F)(D) (Identical) 3- 1-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education
	Last Action:	5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
	General Remarks:	This bill creates the Collaborative Task Force on Public School Mental Health Services to study and evaluate state-funded mental health services provided at school districts or open-enrollment charter schools to enrolled students, students' parents or family members, or school employees. The task force also would evaluate mental health services training provided to educators and the impact of the provided mental health services.
HB 961	Howard, Donna(D) Watson, Kirk(D)	Relating to the membership and training course requirements of school

district and open-enrollment charter school concussion oversight teams.

General Remarks: This bill would allow school nurses to become members of school district concussion oversight teams.

Last Action: 5-22-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1063

Price, Four(R)
Buckingham, Dawn(R)

Relating to the reimbursement of providers for the provision of certain home telemonitoring services under Medicaid.

Companions: SB 1518 Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical)
3-14-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

General Remarks: This bill would require Medicaid to cover telemonitoring for pediatric persons who are being treated by at least three medical specialists, are diagnosed with end-stage organ disease, have received an organ transplant, or require mechanical ventilation.

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1065

Ashby, Trent(R)
Kolkhorst, Lois(R)

Relating to the establishment of a rural resident physician grant program.

Companions: HB 2996 Ashby, Trenton(R) (Refiled from 85R Session)
SB 1455 Campbell, Donna(R) (Refiled from 85R Session)
SB 1084 Kolkhorst, Lois(R) (Identical)
3- 7-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Higher Education

General Remarks: This bill would create a grant program for to encourage GME positions in rural areas.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1070

Price, Four(R)
Watson, Kirk(D)

Relating to the mental health first aid training program reporting requirements.

General Remarks: Currently, LMHAs are required to report the number of employees it has that are trained as mental health first aid trainers, and the

 HB 1264

Thompson, Senfronia(D)
Buckingham, Dawn(R) Relating to pharmacist communications to prescribing practitioners regarding certain dispensed biological products.

number of school employees who received the training. This bill would also require the LMHA to report reasons why trainers left, a detailed accounting of expenditures of money for trainings, and more specific information on school districts and categories of personnel.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

Companions: SB 759 Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical)
3-19-19 S Committee action pending Senate Health and Human Services

General Remarks: Currently, pharmacists are required to tell prescribers the specific product provided to the patient within three days of dispensing a biological product. The law requiring this is set to expire in 2019. This bill would repeal the expiration date.

Last Action: 5- 7-19 G Earliest effective date

 HB 1401

Howard, Donna(D)
Hinojosa, Chuy(D) Relating to the use of money from the permanent fund for health-related programs to provide grants to nursing education programs.

General Remarks: Currently, the funds dedicated to allied health professionals are directed towards nursing, but the statute directing the funds to nursing expires in 2019. This bill would extend the expiration date to 2023.

Last Action: 5-28-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1418

Phelan, Dade(R)
Huffman, Joan(R) Relating to disease prevention and preparedness information for emergency medical services personnel on certification or recertification.

Companions: SB 829 Huffman, Joan(R) (Identical)
3- 1-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

General Remarks: This bill would require HHSC to develop a registry for EMS personnel, and, if an applicant does not have any immunization history in the registry, provide information to

 HB 1501

Nevarez, Poncho(D)
Nichols, Robert(R)

applicants about the risks of exposure to infection.

Last Action: 5-27-19 G Earliest effective date

Relating to the creation of the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council and to the continuation and transfer of the regulation of psychologists, marriage and family therapists.

Companions: SB Nichols, Robert(R) (Identical)
611

2-21-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

General Remarks: Creates new agency - Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council and transfers all listed professions to regulation under it.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1504

Paddie, Chris(R)
Nichols, Robert(R)

Relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas Medical Board.

Companions: SB Nichols, Robert(R) (Identical)
610

2-21-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

General Remarks: TMB Sunset Bill

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1518

Coleman, Garnet(D)
Seliger, Kel(R)

Relating to the regulation of the sale of dextromethorphan to minors.

Companions: SB 349 Seliger, Kel(R) (Identical)

4- 9-19 S Committee action pending Senate Health and Human Services

General Remarks: This bill would prohibit the sale of dextromethorphan to minors, and require all purchasers to show a photo ID.

Last Action: 9- 1-19 G Earliest effective date

 HB 1532

Meyer, Morgan(R)
Hughes, Bryan(R)

Relating to the regulation of certain health organizations certified by the Texas Medical Board.

General Remarks: This bill would make physician complaints against health organizations certified by the

 HB 1584

Thompson, Senfronia(D)
Buckingham, Dawn(R) Relating to health benefit plan coverage of prescription drugs for stage-four advanced, metastatic cancer.

TMB confidential, and would protect physicians from retaliation based on those complaints.

Last Action: 5-28-19 G Sent to the Governor

Companions: SB Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical)
1148

3- 7-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

General Remarks: This bill would prohibit a health benefit plan that provided coverage for stage-four advanced cancer and associated conditions from requiring that an enrollee fail to successfully respond to a different drug or prove a history of such failure before the plan provided coverage for a prescription drug. This requirement would apply only to a drug whose use was consistent with best practices for the treatment of stage-four advanced cancer or an associated condition and was supported by peer-reviewed medical literature. The bill would apply only to certain health plans issued by specified organizations, including:

- a plan issued by health maintenance organization;
- a small employer health plan subject to the Health Insurance Portability and Availability Act;
- a consumer choice of benefits plan;
- a basic coverage plan under the Texas Employees Group Benefits Act;
- a basic plan under the Texas Public School Retired Employees Group Benefits Act;
- a primary care coverage plan under the Texas School Employees Uniform Group Health Coverage Act;
- a basic coverage plan under the Uniform Insurance Benefits Act for employees of the University of Texas and Texas A&M systems;
- group health coverage made available by a school district;
- a regional or local health care program providing services to certain small employers; and
- a self-funded health plan sponsored by a professional employer organization.

The bill also would apply to the state Medicaid program, including managed care programs, and the state child health plan program. The bill would apply to coverage under a group health plan provided to a resident of this

 HB 1590

Howard, Donna(D)
Watson, Kirk(D)

state regardless of whether the group contract was issued or renewed in this state.

Relating to the establishment of the Office for Sexual Assault Survivor Assistance within the criminal justice division of the governor's office.

Companions: [SB 2384](#) Watson, Kirk(D) (Identical)

3-21-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Criminal Justice

General Remarks: This bill would create the Office for Sexual Assault Survivor Assistance within the criminal justice division of the governor's office. The office will facilitate cooperation, analyze data, make recommendations, develop statewide standards. The statewide standards for best practices would happen in consultation with sexual assault nurse examiners, among others.

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1592

Smithee, John(R)
West, Royce(D)

Relating to health care professional liability coverage for certain public institutions of higher education.

Companions: [SB 919](#) West, Royce(D) (Identical)

3- 1-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Higher Education

Last Action: 9- 1-19 G Earliest effective date

General Remarks: This bill authorizes the University of Texas System, the Texas A&M University System, the Texas Tech University System, and the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth to self-insure for medical malpractice coverage.

 HB 1848

Klick, Stephanie(R)
Buckingham, Dawn(R)

Relating to prevention of communicable diseases in certain long-term care facilities.

Companions: [HB 1360](#) Wu, Gene(D) (Identical)

2-27-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1849

Klick, Stephanie(R)
Menendez, Jose(D)

General Remarks: This bill requires long-term care facilities to establish and maintain infection prevention and control programs.

Relating to the possession and administration of epinephrine auto-injectors in day-care centers.

Companions: [SB 1735](#) Menendez, Jose(D) (Identical)

3-14-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

General Remarks: This bill allows a physician or person who was delegated prescriptive authority by a physician to prescribe epinephrine autoinjectors to a day care center.

 HB 1869

Klick, Stephanie(R)
Zaffirini, Judith(D)

Relating to the composition of the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council.

General Remarks: This bill would add one member to GETAC who is selected by the governor from a list of names recommended by a statewide association of emergency nurses. It would also add one registered nurse with trauma expertise. TxENA agenda item.

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1899

Bonnen, Greg(R)
Kolkhorst, Lois(R)

Relating to the revocation or denial of certain health care professional licenses and the reporting of the grounds for revocation or denial.

General Remarks: This bill would require licensing boards to revoke licenses of sex offenders and violent felons.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 1941

Phelan, Dade(R)
Watson, Kirk(D)

Relating to unconscionable prices charged by certain health care facilities for medical care.

Companions: [SB 866](#) Watson, Kirk(D) (Identical)

4-16-19 S Committee action pending Senate Business and Commerce

HB 2041	Oliverson, Tom(R) Taylor, Larry(R)	General Remarks:	This bill would prohibit facilities from charging unconscionable prices for emergency care.
		Last Action:	5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
		General Remarks:	Relating to the regulation of freestanding emergency medical care facilities. This bill would add transparency to the FEMC billing process for consumers. Specifically, it would require the FEMC to disclose fees and prohibit advertisements that could deceive the consumer into believing they are in network.
		Last Action:	5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 2048	Zerwas, John(R) Huffman, Joan(R)	Companions:	SB 918 Huffman, Joan(R) (Identical) 4-11-19 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
		General Remarks:	This bill would do away with most driver responsibility surcharge fees, and instead provide hospitals with a combination of legislative appropriations, fees placed on insurers, and fees from moving violations and traffic fines.
		Last Action:	5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 2059	Blanco, Cesar(D) Taylor, Larry(R)	General Remarks:	Relating to required human trafficking prevention training for health care practitioners and certain employees of health care facilities. This bill would require health care practitioners in direct patient care settings to complete a training course on human trafficking.
		Last Action:	5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor
HB 2174	Zerwas, John(R) Kolkhorst, Lois(R)	Companions:	SB 1233 Kolkhorst, Lois(R) (Identical) 3-26-19 S Committee action pending Senate Health and Human Services

General Remarks: This bill would require an electronic prescription for all controlled substances, as opposed to just Schedule IIs, unless it is an emergency situation. It would also allow written prescriptions by veterinarians, in circumstances where electronic prescribing is not available, when the pharmacy is outside of the state, when the prescriber and dispenser are in the same location, and other specific circumstances. In an emergency, a prescription could be oral or telephonic. Finally, it would allow waivers granted to specific providers under specific circumstances. This bill would also place limits on prescriptions, including a seven-day limit on opioids for acute pain and a limit on refills of prescriptions for acute pain.

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 2205

Clardy, Travis(R)
Buckingham, Dawn(R)

Relating to the informal dispute resolution process for certain disputes between the Health and Human Services Commission and long-term care facilities.

General Remarks: Requires that the informal dispute resolution process for disputes between long term care facilities and HHSC include requirements that the surveyor be available to testify during the process and that an RN conduct the HHSC's review of the IDR request for standard of care violations.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 2243

Oliverson, Tom(R)
Buckingham, Dawn(R)

Relating to the use of prescription asthma medicine on public and private school campuses.

Companions: SB Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical)
1665

3-14-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education

General Remarks: This bill would allow schools to carry, and nurses to administer, asthma medication to students if the student's parent confirms in writing that the student is diagnosed with asthma.

Last Action: 5-24-19 G Earliest effective date

 HB 2255

Darby, Drew(R)
Johnson, Nathan (F)(D)

Relating to the sharing of newborn and infant hearing screening results and the

provision of information to parents following a screening.

Companions: SB 1912 Johnson, Nathan (F)(D) (Identical)

3-19-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

Last Action: 9- 1-19 G Earliest effective date

General Remarks:

The bill would require a birthing facility that operated a certified newborn hearing, screening, tracking and intervention program to simultaneously distribute to the parents of each newborn or infant the results of the child's hearing screening and informational materials on the following public resources:

- early childhood intervention services;
- the primary statewide resource center at the Texas School for the Deaf (TSD); and
- contact information for Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention.

CSHB 2255 would require the Department of State Health Services to share the educational and informational materials with the public upon request. The birthing facility also would be required to report the newborn or infant's test results to TSD. The bill would require a program that performed a follow-up hearing screening that a newborn or infant did not pass to provide the results to the TSD, with the prior written consent of the newborn's or infant's parents, in addition to providing the results to the parents themselves. The program that conducted the follow-up screening also would be required to refer the newborn or infant to TSD. CSHB 2255 would require the Health and Human Services executive commissioner to develop guidelines to protect the confidentiality of patients and require the written consent of a parent or guardian before any identifying information was provided to TSD. The bill would require TSD to allow a parent to at any time withdraw the information provided to TSD.

 HB 2261

Walle, Armando(D)
Hinojosa, Chuy(D)

Relating to the physician education loan repayment program.

Companions: SB 998 Hinojosa, Chuy(D) (Identical)

4-24-19 S Committee action pending Senate Higher Education

General Remarks:

This bill would increase the PELRP loan amount by \$5,000 each year.

 HB 2410

Klick, Stephanie(R)
Perry, Charles(R)

Last Action: 5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor

Relating to a request for a nursing peer review determination.

General Remarks: This bill would allow nurses to orally request peer review by notifying a supervisor if the nurse is unable to complete the peer review request form due to immediate patient care needs.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 2454

Price, Four(R)
Hughes, Bryan(R)

Relating to continuing education requirements for certain health professionals regarding pain management and the prescribing of opioids.

General Remarks: This bill would require physicians, and PAs and APRNs who are authorized to prescribe opioids, to complete at least two hours of CE in pain management and opioid abuse in each renewal period.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 2783

Wilson, Terry(R)
Buckingham, Dawn(R)

Relating to the establishment of the Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Advisory Council.

Companions: [SB 2234](#) Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical)
3-21-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

General Remarks: This bill would create an advisory council to advise the state on pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome. Membership would include legislators, a physician, psychiatrist, pediatrician, immunologist, dietician, researcher, social worker, school psychologist, school nurse, and parents.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 HB 2813

Price, Four(R)
Nelson, Jane(R)

Relating to the statewide behavioral health coordinating council.

General Remarks: This bill would create the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council to develop a five-year strategic plan, an expenditure proposal, and oversee grants. It

		would be comprised of universities, licensing agencies, and health agencies.
	Last Action:	5-28-19 G Sent to the Governor
 HB 3284	Sheffield, J.D.(R) Nelson, Jane(R)	Relating to prescribing and dispensing controlled substances and monitoring the prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances under the Texas Controlled Substances Act.
	General Remarks:	This bill would prohibit written prescriptions except under special circumstances, limit acute-care opioid prescriptions to 14-day supplies, and protect providers from liability for failing to check the PMP.
	Last Action:	5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
 HB 3345	Price, Four(R) Hughes, Bryan(R)	Relating to health benefit coverage provided by certain health benefit plans for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services.
	General Remarks:	This bill would require insurers to provide full reimbursement for telemedicine and telehealth services.
	Last Action:	5-28-19 G Sent to the Governor
 HB 4455	Miller, Rick(R) Campbell, Donna(R)	Relating to the provision of mental health services through a telemedicine medical service or telehealth service.
	General Remarks:	This bill would allow mental health providers to treat out-of state persons with telemedicine or telehealth. It would also repeal the provision that exempts mental health services from the requirements of the telemedicine and telehealth chapter.
	Last Action:	5-29-19 G Sent to the Governor
 HCR 35	Miller, Rick(R) Huffman, Joan(R)	Recognizing human trafficking as a public health issue.
	Last Action:	5-24-19 G Sent to the Governor
	General Remarks:	Concurrent resolution that the legislature recognizes human trafficking as a public health issue
 SB 11	Taylor, Larry(R) Bonnen, Greg(R)	Relating to policies, procedures, and measures for school safety and mental health promotion in public schools.

Last Action: 5-28-19 G Sent to the Governor

General Remarks: The bill would:

- revise requirements for school multihazard emergency operations plans;
- include substitute teachers among educators to receive safety training;
- require districts to establish threat assessment teams to incorporate best practices for school safety and school climate;
- require districts to integrate trauma-informed practices in the school environment;
- require the education commissioner to adopt standards for safe and secure school facilities; and
- establish a school safety allotment for districts to use in improving security and providing mental health personnel.

 SB 21

Huffman, Joan(R)
Zerwas, John(R)

Relating to the distribution, possession, purchase, consumption, and receipt of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and tobacco products.

Companions: [HB 749](#) Zerwas, John(R) (Identical)
4- 3-19 H Reported from committee as substituted House Public Health
[SB 338](#) Huffman, Joan(R) (Identical)
1-11-19 S Filed

General Remarks: This bill would increase the legal age for cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and tobacco products from 18 to 21.

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor

 SB 37

Zaffirini, Judith(D)
Krause, Matt(R)

Relating to the abolition of student loan default or breach of a student loan repayment or scholarship contract as a ground for nonrenewal of professional license.

Companions: [HB 218](#) Krause, Matt(R) (Identical)
4-16-19 S Received in the Senate
[HB 258](#) Blanco, Cesar(D) (Identical)
2-27-19 H Committee action pending House Higher Education
[HB 466](#) Hernandez, Ana(D) (Identical)
4- 8-19 H Reported from committee as substituted House Higher Education

		General Remarks:	This bill would prohibit occupational licensing agencies from disciplining based on student loan default.						
		Last Action:	5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor						
 SB 71	Nelson, Jane(R) Thompson, Senfronia(D)		Relating to the establishment of a statewide telehealth center for sexual assault forensic medical examination.						
		General Remarks:	This bill would establish a statewide telehealth center for sexual assault forensic medical examination to expand access to sexual assault nurse examiners. The bill would also allow funding for training and travel expenses for testifying.						
		Last Action:	5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor						
 SB 170	Perry, Charles(R) Price, Four(R)		Relating to reimbursement of rural hospitals participating in the Medicaid managed care program.						
		General Remarks:	This bill would require the state to adopt a reimbursement methodology for rural hospitals in the Medicaid Managed Care Program that ensures they're reimbursed on an individual basis to fully recover all allowable costs.						
		Last Action:	5-21-19 G Sent to the Governor						
 SB 384	Nelson, Jane(R) Sheffield, J.D.(R)		Relating to the reporting of health care-associated infections and preventable adverse events at health care facilities.						
		General Remarks:	Currently, health care facilities, other than pediatric and adolescent hospitals, are required to report incidents of surgical infections for certain surgeries to DSHS, which is then made public. This bill would require all health care facilities to report all healthcare-associated infections.						
		Last Action:	5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor						
 SB 436	Nelson, Jane(R) Price, Four(R)		Relating to statewide initiatives to improve maternal and newborn health for women with opioid use disorder.						
		Companions:	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>HB 1292</td> <td>Price, Four(R)</td> <td>(Identical)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="2">2-27-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health</td> </tr> </table>	HB 1292	Price, Four(R)	(Identical)		2-27-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health	
HB 1292	Price, Four(R)	(Identical)							
	2-27-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health								

 SB 437

Nelson, Jane(R)
Price, Four(R)

General Remarks: This bill would require the state to develop and implement initiatives to improve screening procedures, continuity of care, and access to treatment for women and newborn with opioid use disorder.

Last Action: 5-21-19 G Sent to the Governor

Relating to prohibited practices by a life insurance company relating to an individual's prescription for or obtainment of an opioid antagonist.

Companions: [HB 1291](#) Price, Four(R) (Identical)
2-27-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor

General Remarks: SB 437 would prohibit a life insurance company from denying coverage to an individual based solely on whether the individual had been prescribed or had obtained through a standing order an opioid antagonist. A life insurance company also could not:

- limit the amount, extent, or kind of coverage available to the individual; or
- charge the individual or a group to which the individual belonged a rate that was different from the rate charged to others for the same coverage, unless the charge was based on sound underwriting or actuarial principles reasonably related to actual or anticipated loss experience for a particular risk.

The bill would define "opioid antagonist" as any drug that binds to opioid receptors and blocks or otherwise inhibits the effects of opioids acting on those receptors to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

 SB 633

Kolkhorst, Lois(R)
Lambert, Stan(R)

Relating to an initiative to increase the capacity of local mental health authorities to provide access to mental health services in certain counties.

Companions: [HB 1598](#) Lambert, Stan(R) (Identical)
3- 4-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health

General Remarks: This bill would require HHSC to identify LMHAs in counties with less than 250,000

 SB 670

Buckingham, Dawn(R)
Price, Four(R)

people, assign them to local groups, and develop mental health services development plans for those groups. HHSC would then evaluate and publish all of those plans.

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor

Relating to Medicaid telemedicine and telehealth services.

Companions: [HB 870](#) Price, Four(R) (Identical)
4-18-19 H Reported from committee
as substituted House Public Health

General Remarks: This bill would prohibit MCOs from refusing reimbursement solely because a consultation is provided through telemedicine or telehealth. It would also repeal facility standards and technology standards for Medicaid reimbursement of tele-services. Finally, it would repeal a requirement that fees be split between a physician and an on-site provider, and a requirement that a health professional be present with a student in order for a physician to receive reimbursement for a telemedicine service.

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor

 SB 683

Buckingham, Dawn(R)
Allison, Steve (F)(R)

Relating to the licensing and regulation of pharmacists and pharmacies.

Companions: [HB 1668](#) Allison, Steve (F)(R) (Identical)
3-27-19 H Recommended for Local
and Consent Calendar

General Remarks: This is an omnibus pharmacy bill. One of the things it would do is allow delegators to view the PMP information of a delegatee.

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor

 SB 749

Kolkhorst, Lois(R)
Price, Four(R)

Relating to level of care designations for hospitals that provide neonatal and maternal care.

Companions: [HB 3269](#) Price, Four(R) (Identical)
3-13-19 H Introduced and referred
to committee on House Public
Health

General Remarks: This bill would establish an appeal process for hospital designations, allow providers at Levels I or II to provide all services for which

		they are licensed, medical consultations to meet designation requirements. It would also allow the state to grant waivers of specific requirements.
	Last Action:	5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor
SB 750	Kolkhorst, Lois(R) Button, Angie Chen(R)	Relating to maternal and newborn health care and the quality of services provided to women in this state under certain health care programs.
	General Remarks:	This bill would create a postpartum depression treatment network, statewide initiatives to improve maternal care, and places requirements on MCOs for maternal health. It would also turn the MMM Task Force into the MMM Review Committee and extend its Sunset provision to 2027.
	Last Action:	5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor
SB 752	Huffman, Joan(R) Oliverson, Tom(R)	Relating to liability of volunteer health care providers and health care institutions for care, assistance, or advice provided in relation to a disaster.
	General Remarks:	This bill would protect providers from liability when providing care in an emergency and protect institutions from liability if the provider is at their facility and is immune from liability.
	Last Action:	9- 1-19 G Earliest effective date
SB 821	Nelson, Jane(R) Price, Four(R)	Relating to children's advocacy centers.
	General Remarks:	This bill would overhaul children's advocacy centers. Most importantly, it would require them to adopt multidisciplinary team working protocols, which must include criteria for case referrals, forensic interviews, medical evaluations, and mental health evaluations.
	Last Action:	5-20-19 G Sent to the Governor
SB 869	Zaffirini, Judith(D) Parker, Tan(R)	Relating to guidelines for policies of school districts and open-enrollment charter schools for the care of certain students at risk for anaphylaxis.
	Companions:	HB 2555 Parker, Tan(R) (Identical) 5- 9-19 H Set on the House Calendar

T SB 916

Johnson, Nathan (F)(D)
Zerwas, John(R) Relating to supportive palliative care.

General Remarks: This bill would create a committee to assist schools with updating guidelines for care of students at risk for anaphylaxis.

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor

Last Action: 5-28-19 G Sent to the Governor

General Remarks: SB 916 would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to conduct a study on Medicaid reimbursement for supportive palliative care. Definition. The bill would define "supportive palliative care" as physician-directed interdisciplinary patient- and family-centered care provided to a patient with a serious illness without regard to the patient's age or terminal prognosis that:

- could be provided concurrently with methods of treatment or therapies that sought to cure or minimize the effects of the patient's illness; and
- sought to optimize the quality of life for a patient with a lifethreatening or life-limiting illness and the patient's family through various methods.

These would include methods that sought to:

- anticipate, prevent, and treat the patient's total suffering related to the patient's physical, emotional, social, and spiritual condition;
- address the physical, intellectual, emotional, cultural, social, and spiritual needs of the patient; and
- facilitate for the patient regarding treatment options, education, informed consent, and expression of desires.

Any reference to palliative care in the Health and Safety Code and any other law would mean supportive palliative care as defined in the bill.

SB 916 would repeal the current definition of "palliative care" and modify the definition of "hospice services" to remove the reference to palliative care.

Study. HHSC would be required to conduct a study to assess potential improvements to patients' quality of care and health outcomes and to anticipated cost savings to the state from supporting the use of or providing Medicaid reimbursement to certain Medicaid recipients for supportive palliative care. The study would have to include an evaluation and comparison of other

states that provided Medicaid reimbursement for supportive palliative care. The Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council would have to provide HHSC with recommendations on the structure of the study, including recommendations on identifying specific populations of Medicaid recipients, variables, and outcomes to measure.

The commission would have to provide the findings of the study to the Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council by September 1, 2022. The advisory council would have to include the study's findings in its palliative care report submitted to the Legislature by October 1, 2022. The bill's provisions requiring the study on palliative care would expire on September 1, 2023.

HHSC would have to conduct the study only if the commission received a gift, grant, or donation or the Legislature appropriated money specifically for that purpose. If HHSC did not receive gifts, grants, donations, or appropriated funds for the purpose of the bill, the commission could, but would not be required to, conduct the study using other money available for that purpose.

 SB 976

Hughes, Bryan(R)
Martinez, Armando(D)

Relating to the notification of a peace officer through an indication associated with vehicle registration that a person has a health condition that may impede communication.

Companions: [HB 2644](#) Martinez, Armando(D) (Identical)

4-17-19 H Committee action pending
House Homeland Security and Public Safety

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor

General Remarks: S.B. 976 provides an opportunity for drivers to voluntarily indicate on their vehicle registration application that they have a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication with a peace officer and by providing for such information to be entered into a system for use by peace officers making traffic stops.

 SB 1056

Zaffirini, Judith(D)
Raney, John(R)

Relating to the authority of physicians to delegate to certain pharmacists the implementation and modification of a patient's drug therapy.

Companions: [HB 4297](#) Raney, John(R) (Identical)

4-29-19 H Reported from committee as substituted House Public Health

General Remarks: Currently, physicians can delegate to pharmacists the performance of drug therapy management. This bill would clarify that this authority includes the ability to delegate drug therapy modifications under a protocol that calls for dangerous drugs.

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor

 SB 1200

Campbell, Donna(R)
Miller, Rick(R)

Relating to the authority of certain military spouses to engage in a business or occupation in this state.

General Remarks: This bill would allow military spouses to engage in a business or occupation for which they are licensed in another state in Texas if they are in good standing in that state. They would be limited to three years.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 SB 1217

Alvarado, Carol (F)(D)
Morales, Christina (F)(D)

Relating to the consideration of certain arrests in determining an applicant's eligibility for an occupational license.

General Remarks: This bill would prohibit licensing agencies from considering arrests that did not result in a conviction.

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor

 SB 1239

Johnson, Nathan (F)(D)
Oliverson, Tom(R)

Relating to continuing education requirements for surgical technologists.

Companions: HB 1748 Oliverson, Tom(R) (Identical)

5-14-19 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Health and Human Services

Last Action: 5-21-19 G Sent to the Governor

General Remarks: Surgical technologists who are certified are required to complete 30 hours of continuing education every two years as part of the requirements already imposed by their certifying bodies in order to maintain their certification. However, non-certified surgical technologists hired under one of the exceptions in Chapter 259 do not have continuing education requirements.

S.B. 1239 simply extends the continuing education requirements that already apply to certified surgical technologists, as a condition of maintaining their certification, to also apply to non-certified surgical technologists. Additionally, the bill provides that a health care facility can restrict the abilities of a surgical technologist who does not complete the continuing education requirements, in order to make it clear that the facility has flexibility in how to handle the continued practice of a surgical technologist that does not meet the continuing education requirements.

 SB 1519

Kolkhorst, Lois(R)
Clardy, Travis(R)

Relating to a council on long-term care facilities.

General Remarks: This bill would create a council on long-term care facilities, which would include in its membership two long-term care facility directors of nursing.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 SB 1995

Birdwell, Brian(R)
Paddie, Chris(R)

Relating to the review of certain occupational licensing rules by the office of the governor.

Companions: [HB 4112](#) Paddie, Chris(R) (Identical)
3-25-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House State Affairs

General Remarks: This bill would require the governor to create a review panel for occupational licensing board rules and grant that panel the authority to veto rules. It would provide protection from antitrust suits. This bill is by the chair of Sunset, and the HB is by the vice chair.

Last Action: 5-26-19 G Sent to the Governor

 SB 2011

Buckingham, Dawn(R)
Sheffield, J.D.(R)

Relating to a study and report regarding streamlining physician licensing requirements for nurses.

General Remarks: This bill would require the state to conduct a study regarding a streamlined licensure for nurses who want to become physicians.

Last Action: 5-25-19 G Sent to the Governor