

- SUBJECT:** Reimbursing pharmacists for immunizing Medicaid patients
- COMMITTEE:** Public Health — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 11 ayes — Kolkhorst, Naishtat, Coleman, J. Davis, Gonzales, Hopson, S. King, Laubenberg, McReynolds, Truitt, Zerwas
0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Jennifer Fix, Texas Pharmacy Association; Wayne West, Best Value Pharmacies, Inc.; Dennis Wiesner, HEB; Lydia Wilson, Best Value Pharmacies, Inc.; (*Registered, but did not testify*, Kathy Barber, Texas Federation of Drug Stores; Richard Beck, Texas Pharmacy Business Council; Eileen Garcia-Matthews, Texans Care for Children; Karen Reagan, Walgreens)
Against — None
On — Andres Vasquez, HHSC; (*Registered, but did not testify*, Jack Sims, Texas Department of State Health Services)
- BACKGROUND:** Human Resources Code, ch. 32, subch. B outlines administrative provisions governing the implementation of medical assistance programs in Texas. Sec. 32.024 establishes the program scope and eligibility requirements for Medicaid in Texas.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 3926 would require the Health and Human Services Commission to provide medical assistance reimbursement to a pharmacist who administered an immunization to a Medicaid patient to the same extent it provided reimbursement to a physician or other health care provider, provided the pharmacist was authorized by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy to administer immunizations.
HHSC would request any federal waivers or authorizations necessary and could delay implementation until any necessary waiver or authorization was granted.
The bill would take effect September 1, 2009.