

House Committee Resources: Statewide Health Care Costs and Human Services

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Related Categories: Committee Resources, 86th Session

Committee Resources

The committee has requested written submissions on the following topics. Below are resources related to those topics.

- [House Select Committee on Statewide Health Care Costs](#)
- [House Committee on Human Services](#)

House Select Committee on [Statewide Health Care Costs](#)

Charge 1: Examine the primary drivers of increased health care costs in Texas. This examination should include a review of:

- Current health care financing strategies;
 - fragmentation of the care delivery administrative burden;
 - population, health, and social factors that contribute to rising rates of chronic disease and poor health;
 - insurance coverage and benefit design;
 - lack of transparency in the cost of health care services;
 - regional variations in the cost of care;
 - consolidation and lack of competition in the provider and insurance markets;
 - health care workforce capacity distribution; and
 - fraud, abuse, and wasteful spending.
- [Health Finance Issues](#), National Conference of State Legislatures, August 31, 2020
 - ["How Health Costs Might Change with COVID-19,"](#) Peterson-KFF Health System Tracker, Peterson Center on Health Care and Kaiser Family Foundation, April 15, 2020
 - [2018 Health Care Cost and Utilization Report](#) and [State Spending Trends](#), Health Care Cost Institute, February 2020
 - [Cost Drivers and Revenues: 10-Year Trend](#), Legislative Budget Board, April 2019
 - [Interim Report to the 86th Legislature \(Charge 5 – Health Care Cost Transparency\)](#), Texas Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, November 2018
 - [Overview of Cost Drivers and Update on Cost Containment Initiatives](#) (Presentation to Senate Finance Committee), Texas Health and Human Services Commission, September 11, 2018
 - [Interim Report to the 85th Texas Legislature \(Charge 2 – Chronic disease: health care costs\)](#), House Committee on Public Health, December 2016

Charge 2: Study the opportunities to better coordinate how public dollars are spent on health care.

- *Commissioning Change: How Four States Use Advisory Boards to Contain Health Spending* California Health Care Foundation, January 2020

Charge 3: Identify emerging and proven delivery system improvements and sustainable financing models that could reduce the cost of health care.

- *National Health Expenditure Projections 2019-28*, Office of the Actuary, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, March 24, 2020
- *2018 Health Care Cost and Utilization Report* and *State Spending Trends*, Health Care Cost Institute, February 2020
- *Reforming America's Healthcare System Through Choice and Competition* (Related [press release](#)), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of the Treasury, and U.S. Department of Labor, December 2018
- *Evaluating State Innovations to Reduce Health Care Costs*, Center for American Progress, April 2018
- *Value-Based Insurance Design*, National Conference of State Legislatures, updated February 20, 2018

House Committee on [Human Services](#)

Topics:

Health Care Access and Medicaid: Examine innovative approaches and delivery models to reduce health care costs for both patients and taxpayers, including policies that other states have implemented. Consider recommendations to implement such models. Study the impact that "direct care" health care models may have on Medicaid beneficiaries for acute care and mental health services, including potential cost savings and improvement in quality metrics. Examine efforts other states have made seeking to implement direct care models, particularly in Medicaid or in charitable health care delivery.

- *Health Finance Issues*, National Conference of State Legislatures, August 31, 2020
- *Health Innovations State Law Database*, National Conference of State Legislatures, August 21, 2020
- *Direct Primary Care: Evaluating a New Model of Delivery and Financing*, Society of Actuaries, May 2020
- *Direct Primary Care*, American Academy of Family Physicians, updated

September 2019

- *Innovations in Health Care: A Toolkit for State Legislators*, National Conference of State Legislatures, July 19, 2019
- *Direct Primary Care: A New Way to Deliver Health Care*, Colorado Health Institute, June 2018

Impacts of COVID-19 on Long-Term Care Facilities: Consider the following issues in light of the COVID-19 pandemic:

1) Review the state's response to the pandemic, specifically as it relates to emergency regulations that prohibited visitation of residents of long-term care facilities by family members. Examine the physical and mental health impacts of the visitation policy on long-term care residents.

- *COVID-19 Response for Assisted Living Facilities* (Version 3.4), Texas Health and Human Services Commission, August 24, 2020
- *COVID-19 Response for Nursing Facilities* (Version 3.5), Texas Health and Human Services Commission, August 18, 2020
- *COVID-19 Response for Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals With an Intellectual Disability or Related Conditions* (Version 2.2), Texas Health and Human Services Commission, July 6, 2020
- "Protecting Elderly Texans Key to the State's Reopening Plan," Texas Medical Association, May 1, 2020
- *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Provider Information*, Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- *Long-term Care Providers: Assisted Living Facilities, Day Activity & Health Services, Intermediate Care Facilities, Nursing Facilities* (COVID-19 Resources, including emergency rules and visitation), Texas Health and Human Services Commission

2) Review emergency waivers of regulations of long-term care facilities during the pandemic and make recommendations on whether regulations should be permanently waived or removed.

- *Current Emergencies: Coronavirus Disease 2019 [COVID-19]*, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, August 31, 2020
- "HHSC Releases Emergency Rules for LTCR Providers Related to COVID-19" (Press Release), Texas Health and Human Services Commission, April 9, 2020
- *Long-term Care Providers: Assisted Living Facilities, Day Activity & Health Services, Intermediate Care Facilities, Nursing Facilities* (COVID-19 Resources, including emergency rules and visitation), Texas Health and Human Services Commission

Charge 2.2 - 2.5: Review how Texas is preparing for state and federal budgetary changes that impact the state's health programs, including:

2.2) The next phase of the **1115 Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program Waiver**;

2.3) **Texas' Targeted Opioid Response Grant**;

2.4) The **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services proposed Medicaid Fiscal Accountability rule**; and

2.5) The **Healthy Texas Women Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver**.

- o **Fiscal Size-Up: 2020-21 Biennium Health and Human Services**), Legislative Budget Board, May 2020
- o **Texas Women's Health Programs Report Fiscal Year 2019, As Required by 2020-21 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 (Article II, Health and Human Services Commission, Rider 74)**, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, May 2020
- o **"Texas and the 1115 Medicaid Waiver: Action Needed to Ensure Federal Aid," Fiscal Notes**, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, August 2019

Charge 4: Examine the long-term services and support system of care in Texas. Study workforce challenges for both institutional and community services, with a focus on home- and community-based services in the state's STAR+PLUS program. Review what impact funding provided by the 86th Legislature to increase the base wage for community attendant services and the increased funding for rate enhancements have on workforce retention and quality. Consider options to both stabilize and expand the workforce. Review the long-term care programs and services available to Texas' seniors, including community alternatives to institutional care available through programs like the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly. Examine the adequacy of current funding mechanisms, including Medicaid reimbursement rates and supplemental or add-on payments, to incentivize high-quality care. Consider mechanisms to promote a stable, sustainable and quality-based long-term care system to address current and future needs of the state.

- **Waiver Slot Enrollment Progress Report, As Required by 2020-21 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 (Article II, Health and Human Services Commission, Rider 20)**, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, September 2020
- **Reimagining the Future: A Report on Maximizing Resources and Long-Range**

Planning for State Supported Living Centers, As Required by 2020-21 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 (Article II, Health and Human Services Commission, Rider 110) and Texas Health and Safety Code § 553A.032, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, July 2020

- *Fiscal Size-Up: 2020-21 Biennium (Health and Human Services)*, Legislative Budget Board, May 2020
- *Home Health and Hospice and Long Term Care Survey Reports*, Texas Department of State Health Services, updated March 4, 2020
- *Utilization Review in STAR+PLUS Managed Care, As Required by Government Code Section 533.00281*, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, December 2019
- *Recruitment and Retention Efforts at State Supported Living Centers, As Required by the 2018-19 General Appropriations Act, Senate Bill 1, 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017 (Article II, Health and Human Services Commission, Rider 139(c)(1))*, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, October 2019
- *Community Attendant Recruitment and Retention Strategies, As Required by Rider 207 of the 2018-2019 General Appropriations Act*, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, August 2019
- *Texas Health and Human Services Commission Annual Report Regarding Long-term Care Regulatory, As Required by THSC § 242.005*, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, August 2019

Charge 5: Examine the adequacy of Medicaid reimbursements for nursing facilities, including existing incentive-based payment models and the Quality Incentive Payment Program. Consider and make recommendations to incentivize innovative models of care delivery in nursing home facilities. Study the impact of the STAR+PLUS managed care program on nursing facility care, operations and patient health outcomes, and consider recommendations to improve administrative processes between facilities and managed care organizations.

- *"Governor Abbott, HHSC Secure \$1.1 Billion in Federal Funding for Nursing Facilities"* (Press Release), Office of the Texas Governor, August 7, 2020
- *"QIPP Pool Size Is \$2.1 Billion for SFY 2021"* (Press Release), Texas Health and Human Services Commission, April 22, 2020
- *Medicaid STAR+PLUS Nursing Facility Risk Groups: Reporting Errors Affected Risk Group Assignments*, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Office of Inspector General, March 30, 2020
- *Annual Report on Quality Measures and Value-Based Payments, As Required by Texas Government Code Section 536.008*, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, December 2019
- *Final Quality Metrics for Quality Incentive Payment Program (QIPP) FY 2020 for Nursing Facilities*, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, August 21, 2019

House Committee on **Human Services**

Charge 2.1: Review how Texas is preparing for state and federal budgetary changes that impact the state's health programs, including:

2.1) The **Family First Prevention Services Act** (FFPSA).

In particular,

- Identify and make recommendations to ensure compliance with the requirements of the FFPSA; and
 - Identify and make recommendations related to efficient implementation of the optional portions of FFPSA in concert with Community-Based Care.
- **Family First Legislation**, National Conference of State Legislatures, July 23, 2020
 - **Family First Prevention Services Act**, National Conference of State Legislatures, April 1, 2020
 - **"Texas Prepares for Family First Prevention Services Act"** (Interim News Brief), House Research Organization, March 12, 2020
 - ***House Human Services Interim Committee Hearing: Community-Based Care (CBC) and Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)*** (Presentation), Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, November 12, 2019
 - **Family First Prevention Services Act**, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Charge 3: Monitor the implementation and expansion of Community-Based Care by the Department of Family and Protective Services. Specifically:

- Identify and make recommendations to remove barriers to successful implementation of Community-Based Care.
- ***DFPS Rider 29 Report on Community-Based Care Implementation Status***, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, April 2020
 - ***Rider-Related Reports: 86th Texas Legislature – Rider 15: Community-Based Care Update*** (Report and Appendix), Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, March 31, 2020
 - ***Implementation Plan for the Texas Community-Based Care System***, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, December 2019
 - **Community-Based Care**, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

