



Texas groups support HB 1001 and SB 605 to create affordable health coverage options.

Members of the Texas Legislature,

As you know, the rising cost of health care is a threat to the health and prosperity of our state. One of the biggest drivers of unaffordable coverage is the number of health care mandates Texas continues to require.

That's why we strongly support HB 1001 and SB 605 that would create mandate-lite coverage as a more affordable insurance option. These plans would provide all the protections of insurance but are exempt from mandates that go beyond federal requirements.

And Texas has a mandate problem. We already rank third for the state with mandates that go above and beyond the requirements of the Affordable Care Act, and dozens of new mandates are proposed this session. This overregulation drives up the cost of coverage for everyone with limited or no increase in value.

Health care costs are a major concern for Texas businesses and their employees. In a recent survey from the Texas Association of Business, 87% of Texas employers said that health care costs are rising at an unsustainable rate. Texas businesses need flexibility—not overregulation—to offer affordable health insurance coverage that meets the needs of their employees.

HB 1001 and SB 605 would be a win for employers and employees, providing more opportunities and greater incentives for health care coverage.

We urge other lawmakers to support these pro-business bills that will promote both a healthier Texas and a healthier business environment.

Sincerely,

Americans for Prosperity - Texas
National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals -TX (formerly TAHU)
NFIB
Texas Association of Business

Texas Association of Health Plans
Texas Association of Staffing
Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute
Texans for Lawsuit Reform
The Libre Initiative