



The Texas Association of Health Plans
TAHP TRACKED BILLS - HUMAN SERVICES

03-03-2023 - 10:45:53

Select All

Deselect All

T HB 54

Thompson, Senfronia

Personal needs allowance

Remarks:

SUMMARY: Increases the personal needs allowance, which is the portion of a resident's social security check that they are permitted to retain, from \$60 to \$85 per month for residents of nursing, assisted living, ICF-IID, or similar facilities.

TAHP POSITION: Support

EFFECTIVE DATES: Sept. 1, 2023

TAHP POSITION STATEMENT: The minimum monthly personal needs allowance for these residents does not adequately account for the recent substantial inflation to the cost of living and goods.

DATE UPDATED: 1/9 by JL

Last Action:

3- 7-23 H Meeting set for 8:00 A.M., E2.030, House Human Services

T HB 113

Ortega, Lina

Medicaid community health worker expenses

Companions:

SB 74

Johnson, Nathan(D) (Identical)
 2-15-23 S Introduced and referred
 to committee on Senate Health and
 Human Services

Remarks:

SUMMARY: Allows MCOs to categorize community health workers as a medical expense instead of an administrative expense.

TAHP POSITION: Support

COVERAGE TYPES: Medicaid

EFFECTIVE DATES: Effective immediately if it receives two-thirds vote, otherwise Sept. 1, 2023

TAHP POSITION STATEMENT: Community health workers play a vital role in connecting Medicaid members to health care and community services--critical components of managed care. They help increase health knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, patient navigation and follow-up, community health education and information, informal counseling, social support, advocacy, and participation in clinical research.

DATE UPDATED: 1/11 by JL

Last Action: 3- 7-23 H Meeting set for 8:00 A.M., E2.030, House Human Services

 HB 245

Gonzalez, Mary

Community attendant wages

Last Action: 2-23-23 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services

 HB 465

Thierry, Shawn

Doula pilot

Remarks: SUMMARY: Requires HHSC, in consultation with the Perinatal Advisory Council, to establish a pilot program to provide doula services within Medicaid in Harris County and the county with the most maternal and infant deaths by Sept. 1, 2024. The qualifications for an individual to be considered a doula and the doula services to be covered under the pilot program will be established by rule. HHSC is also responsible for establishing the qualifications for eligibility. The pilot must terminate by Sept. 1, 2029. Requires HHSC to publish an annual report on the cost of the pilot and the impact on birth outcomes. The final report must summarize the pilot program results, include feedback from participating doulas and members, and include a recommendation to continue/expand/terminate the program.

TAHP POSITION: Neutral

COVERAGE TYPES: Medicaid

EFFECTIVE DATES: Sept. 1, 2023

DATE UPDATED: 1/9 by JL

Last Action: 3- 7-23 H Meeting set for 8:00 A.M., E2.030, House Human Services

 HB 580

Raymond, Richard

Medicaid single claims portal

Companions:	HB 1625	Raymond, Richard(D)	(Refiled from 87R Session)
	SB 432	Hinojosa, Chuy(D)	(Refiled from 87R Session)

Remarks: SUMMARY: Requires HHSC to build a single portal, within existing resources, for providers to submit electronic claims, PA requests, claims appeals and reconsiderations, clinical data, and other documentation that MCOs request for PA and claims processing; and obtain electronic remittance advice, EOB statements, and other standardized reports.

TAHP POSITION: Oppose

COVERAGE TYPES: Medicaid

EFFECTIVE DATES: Effective immediately if it receives two-thirds vote, otherwise Sept. 1, 2023

TAHP POSITION STATEMENT: TAHP opposes a new consolidated claims portal because it is a waste of valuable state resources and disregards the existing technology and infrastructure already in place through Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs). MCOs already operate efficient claims portals with real-time access to claims information, reduced administrative burden on providers, and improved patient experience. There is no need for the state to duplicate these portals. The construction of a new portal would require significant resources, including staff hiring, technology purchasing, and ongoing maintenance, which would be better spent improving other areas of the healthcare system. Previous experience with consolidated portals in Texas has not proven valuable, with low utilization rates. HHSC already operates a single portal for nursing homes to submit claims, but utilization is low, with only 2.3% of claims being submitted through the portal. Providers choose to use the MCO portals because they offer more functionality and ease of use. A fully functional portal similar to health plan portals would require significant investment, with estimated ongoing cost over \$10 million per year.

DATE UPDATED: 2/4 by JD

Last Action: 2-23-23 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services

 HB 729

Rose, Toni

Statewide IDD Coordinating Council

Companions: SB 524 West, Royce(D) (Identical)

2-17-23 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

Last Action: 2-28-23 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services

T HB 1111

Meza, Terry

Autism study

Companions: **HB 4058** Meza, Terry(D) (Refiled from 87R Session)

Remarks: SUMMARY: Requires HHSC to conduct a cost-benefit analysis comparing the cost to the state of providing applied behavior analysis services to children with autism with the effectiveness of the services. Report due Sept. 1, 2024.

TAHP POSITION: Neutral

EFFECTIVE DATES: Sept. 1, 2023

DATE UPDATED: 1/17 by JL

Last Action: 3- 2-23 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services

T HB 1185

Dean, Jay

Pediatric long-term care access program

Companions: **SB 746** Hughes, Bryan(R) (Identical)
3- 1-23 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

Remarks: SUMMARY: Authorizes Upshur County to collect a mandatory payment from each pediatric long-term care facility in the county to be deposited in a local pediatric long-term care access assurance fund. HB 1185 is specific to Truman Smith. Truman Smith cares for about 100 children of Texas who have the highest skilled nursing needs that cannot be cared for at home or in other settings. HB 1185 would provide state authorization for a Medicaid funding mechanism that is available under federal law, but needs both state and local authorization. In 2019, Texas provided authorized for hospitals in any county that wanted to take advantage: HB 4289 (86R). But that authorization was only for hospitals, not skilled nursing or other medical facilities.

TAHP POSITION: Neutral

EFFECTIVE DATES: Effective immediately if it receives two-thirds vote, otherwise Sept. 1, 2023

DATE UPDATED: 1/22 by JL

Last Action: 3- 2-23 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services

	All	Track
Total Bills:	8	8

Track(s):

(Master List Only)▼

Position:

(None)▼

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