

**87<sup>th</sup> Texas Regular Session  
& Special Sessions**

*Legislative Summary and Outcomes Report*



By: Tristan “Tris” Castañeda, Jr.



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January 17, 2022

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Re: TAMFT 2021 Legislative Summary and Outcomes Report

Team:

On behalf of Longbow Partners, I am pleased to provide the following “**TAMFT 2021 Legislative Summary and Outcomes Report**”, which summarizes the key takeaways from the session and details the results of TAMFT’s legislative priorities, in addition to an overview of legislation of interest to LMFT and other mental health professionals that we worked on or actively monitored during the session and the three called Special Sessions.

The 2021 session marks yet another productive, results driven state legislative effort, positively building upon TAMFT’s successful engagements over the years, but the session the subsequent special sessions, also provided several warning signs of a potentially disturbing trajectory where partisan norms and standards of legislative civility appear continue to be significantly tested, complicating our advocacy today and increasingly possible into the foreseeable future. Chief among those signs during 2021 were changes in Senate rules at the start of the 87<sup>th</sup> Regular Session from 3/5<sup>ths</sup> to 4/5<sup>ths</sup>, two Democratic guided quorum breaks, a veto of Article X, which funds the Legislature, and three called special sessions, dedicated to passing several hard-right, conservative priorities in advance of the 2022 election cycle.

There were other noteworthy dynamics leading into and during the 2021 session that shaped the legislative climate, including a disorienting global pandemic, growing civil unrest, redistricting, and Winter Storm Uri, which crippled Texas' electrical grid, all of which conspired to suck all the air out of the room, shortchanging legislator's time to spend on other policy issues and straining relationships amid partisan divides as well as intra-party fractures.

Election cycles and legislative sessions inevitably brings changes, some of which are controllable or foreseeable, while other events and conditions are outside of our control or occur unexpectedly. Among those that were foreseeable, was the open race for Speaker, which translated to the election of Rep. Dade Phelan (R-Beaumont) by his legislative peers, and the appointment of new committee chairs. Apart from the Human Services Committee, chaired by James Frank (R-Wichita Falls), the House Appropriations Committee, the Juvenile Justice and Family Issues Committee, the Human Services Committee, the Public Health Committee, and the House Insurance Committee all had new Chairs, which required specific attention, as these are the key House committees of jurisdiction where most of TAMFTs issues are referred.

In the Senate, there were no substantial changes to the Finance, or Health and Human Services Committees, but changes to the suspension rule, or the amount of support needed to bring a bill to the floor, from 3/5<sup>ths</sup> to 4/5<sup>ths</sup> did, in combination with partisan hostilities and deteriorating relationships between the House, Senate, and the Governor's Office, have a direct adverse impact on at least one of TAMFT legislative priorities, which will described later in the body of this report.

TAMFT's advocacy program, approved by the Board in 2020, outlined policy priorities covering the extensive rulemakings associated with maintaining the independence of the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapy (TSBEMFT) regarding LMFT scope of practice, qualifications/training criteria, standards of care and ethical practices, while the Behavioral Health Executive Council (BHEC), which passed in the last session (2019), was being established. In addition, TAMFT's advocacy program also delineated legislative priorities leading into the 2021 Session, including appropriations issues to support the BHEC, strengthening telehealth capacity as a means to improving access to care, funding the mental health tuition reimbursement program, extending civil liability protections to licensed mental health professionals, as well as advancing and protecting other policies of interest to LMFTs and mental health in general. These issues are described in detail later in this report.

In a related interim matter, and thanks both to strong applicants and substantive communications with the Executive Branch, Governor Abbott appointed 3 TAMFT members to the TSBEMFT, including **Lisa V. Merchant, Ph.D., LMFT – Presiding Member, Russell F. “Russ” Barte, Ph.D., LPC-S, LMFT-S, and Jeanene L. Smith, M.A., LPC-S, LMFT-S, which is a high-water mark for recent history in terms of the number of professional members appointed that were part of TAMFT!**

Once again, TAMFT worked extensively and strategically with the Texas Counseling Association, the Texas Society for Clinical Social Work and the National Association of Social Workers-Texas Chapter, and the Texas Psychological Association. In the process, TAMFT leveraged every advocacy tool available, including drafting of language, targeted meetings at the Capitol, committee testimony, generating educational materials and support letters, working in coalitions against fierce opposition, and engaging association membership.

As in years past, TAMFT's interim and legislative advocacy efforts would not have been as successful without the active participation, hard work, substantive expertise, and steadfast support of entire Board of Directors, the dedicated focus of the legislative committee and the direct involvement association members, who unfortunately were unable to participate in-person at the traditional Day at the Dome activity but did so virtually.

Equally important, a special thanks and appreciation needs to be extended to those legislators and state officials who carried legislation or collaborated with us on advancing TAMFT's legislative program and supporting relevant issues to improve access to quality mental health services overall. There were many legislators along with the assistance of their professional staffs, who were always accessible, willing to help, and who constructively contributed to the success of our advocacy program throughout the session. TAMFT strategically leveraged FamilyPAC in supporting legislators and state officials who are knowledgeable, sympathetic to mental health issues, or in a position to influence issues of importance, and was an essential part of TAMFT's interim and state policy success!

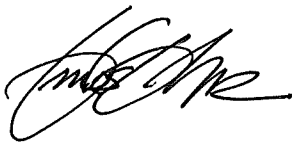
This ***“Legislative Outcomes Report”*** contains a summary of the most significant bills passed during the 87<sup>th</sup> Regular Session that were of interest to TAMFT. The information presented in the report is organized into three principal sections. Section I provides a general legislative overview of the Regular Session, along with highlights from the 3

Called Special Sessions. Section II summarizes those bills that were part of TAMFTs adopted package and as well as other legislation of interest. Section III provides a listing and final status report of all tracked bills that were actively monitored and reported on during the session.

TAMFTs work, of course, does not end just because the Texas Legislature has gone home. There are always agency rulemakings implementing legislation that passed, interim charges and as elected officials start concentrating on getting re-elected, we will need to track results of the primary and general elections and assess how those outcomes will shape the legislative climate for TAMFT leading into the 2023 session.

Finally, I feel fortunate and honored to have had the opportunity to again work alongside and represent TAMFT during the interim and before the Texas Legislature on our shared mission to make Texas's mental health delivery system the best it can be and to help bring TAMFTs voice and views to the State Capitol! Please accept my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the Board's continued support and confidence. I look forward to working with the Board, the legislative committee, and the entire membership on continuing to add strategic value to the organization, to strengthen the practice settings for LMFT services, and to advance and protect public policy issues that improve the delivery of quality mental health services in Texas!

Respectfully,



Tristan "Tris" Castañeda, Jr.  
Partner  
Longbow Partners

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## HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

This 2021 Legislative Outcomes Report is a summary of significant legislation that passed during the 2021, 87<sup>th</sup> Regular Session, and the subsequent three (3) Special Sessions of the Texas Legislature.

Success in the state legislative arena does not come easily. Of the 6,919 bills and resolutions introduced during the Regular Session by the Texas House and Senate, 1,174 or 17%, made it to the Governor's desk to either sign, veto or allow the bill to become law without his signature. In addition to certain budgetary line-item vetoes, Governor Abbott vetoed 20 bills or .002%.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> Called Special Session, July 8, 2021, which are restricted to the items placed on the call by the Governor, there were 425 bills and resolutions filed by the Texas House and Senate, with no bills being sent to the Governor, due to the breaking of quorum by House Democrats in protest to the "election integrity" legislation, fetal heartbeat bill, and redistricting. In the quickly called 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Session, August 7, 2021, there were 409 bills and resolutions filled, with 19 bills or 5% reaching the Governor's desk and no vetoes. When the 3<sup>rd</sup> Special was called on September 20, 2021, legislators filed 283 bills and resolutions, with 21 bills or 7% reaching Gov. Abbott's desk and no vetoes. There continues to be rumors of a 4<sup>th</sup> Called Session, but as of this writing, nothing concrete has emerged.

The overarching goal of the 2021 Legislative Outcomes Report is primarily focused on the legislative agenda adopted by the TAMFT Board, but also provides a general overview of legislative actions that were outside the agenda, but were considered relevant to TAMFT, licensed mental health professionals, as well as students and the general public who have an interest in mental health.

Please note that this report does not attempt to summarize every piece of legislation filed or enacted, nor is it meant to be an exhaustive section-by-section analysis of those bills included. There is a full bill track of legislation actively tracked on TAMFT's behalf, which is listed later in the report. Otherwise, the report was compiled in substantial part by direct participation, in addition to using proprietary legislative tracking software, public records and staff reports from the Texas Senate and the Texas House of Representatives as well allied organizations.

## I. GENERAL LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW

Inevitably there were revelations that produced some big legislative moments and confrontations, contributing to the uniqueness of this session from past sessions. While every session is unique and carries its own differentiating characteristics, beginning with the course and temperament set by leadership, the procedural rules adopted, and the inner mechanics of how the legislative process unfolds, that ultimately impacts the metrics of what legislation eventually passes, gets vetoed or ends up falling short of adoption.

The 87<sup>th</sup> Regular Legislative Session, which kicked off January 12, 2019, and adjourned “sine die” (Latin for “without a day”) on May 31, 2021, will most likely be remembered as one of the most socially conservative sessions ever! While 2021 was a redistricting year, Republican legislators pushed a flood of ideologically charged measures through the process and onto Governor Abbott’s desk, who had already begun to hear rumors of a host of far-right candidates willing to run against him in the primary.

In recent history, Texas Republicans have charted a meandering legislative course over the past three sessions. Recall, in 2017, Republicans orchestrated a socially conservative “bathroom bill session”, which ultimately failed to pass during the regular session and a special session. In the 2019 session, Republicans moderated their tone and agenda, focused on “meat and potatoes” policy issues, such as property tax and school finance reform, and mostly sidestepping debates on the most divisive of social issues. However, the moderated 2019 session yielded significant 2020 electoral GOP gains. Despite a full-scale, nationally funded Democrat campaign to “turn Texas blue,” Texas Republicans handily won all statewide contests and maintained solid control of the Texas Capitol.

What follows are five (5) essential take-aways worth noting and perhaps more importantly, some commentary on what to look for during the interim, leading up to the 2023 session.

### 1) COVID-19

As the 87<sup>th</sup> Regular Legislative Session convened, on January 12, 2021, there was a great deal of uncertainty amid a disorienting global pandemic, which predictably altered the standard legislative tone, tenor, and level of engagement. Opening Day was unprecedented, when contrasted with the typical filled halls, packed with family and friends as well as legislators and lobbyists eager to begin the 140 day biennial session. Opening Day was unusually sparse, while legislators and family were covered in masks, outnumbered by heavily armed law enforcement bracing for what many feared could be a day like the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection that occurred in our nation’s capital the preceding week.



For weeks, the halls of the capitol remained empty of anyone other than the members, staff, and a handful of lobbyists as COVID protocols restricted access to the building resulting in significant changes to the manner of how the legislature conducted its business, including an overweighted, but necessary use of virtual meetings, emails, phone calls, and other communications means to raise awareness of issues, advance a measure, or protect against adverse changes. Gone from sight were school groups, constituents, and stakeholder groups descending upon the Capitol for their “legislative days”, which had been prohibited due to COVID concerns.

Throughout January, most members’ doors remained locked for weeks as they adhered to strict Covid-19 protocols, including testing, showing of vaccination cards before entering the building, and the heavy DPS presence remained throughout the session. Just about every veteran legislator and lobby professionals logically predicted a session that would predominately focus on the state budget, which was experiencing revenue declines during the COVID economic slowdown as well as addressing the mandatory redrawing of House, Senate, State Board of Education, judicial, and congressional district lines in proportion to the census related population changes. That prediction proved only partially correct, as a huge influx of federal dollars helped Texas meet its financial obligations and demands. Redistricting however, would later be tackled during a special session.

As COVID cases raged on throughout January and the attendant safety protocols, including testing and mask requirements grew more divisive and political, no one foresaw in mid-February 2021, just a few weeks into session, that another profound external condition occurred, altering the course of the session in a meaningful way – the weather phenomenon known as a polar vortex.

## **2) Winter Storm Uri**

Winter Storm Uri as the polar vortex was named, hit Texas severely! Uri crippled the state’s electric grid for a full week, killing over 240 Texans and resulting in resignations of top officials at the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) and the Public Utility Commission over the inadequate preparation in advance of the storm and the response.

Immediately following the aftermath of storm and the negative national media coverage, over eighty hours of testimony was taken across a week of several legislative hearings and more than forty bills were filed to address issues like the governance of ERCOT, weatherization, emergency communication, securitization, and stabilization of the electricity market, a topic that would dominate legislative time. Debate to correct an out

of market action, and “re-price” wholesale electricity transactions, which were held at \$9,000 for an over extended period to avoid a blackout, was expedited out of the Senate on a 27-3 vote but did not pass in the House and did not have the full weight of the Governor, nor his appointees at the PUC. This major disagreement between the House, Senate and the Governor became a major problem. A considerable number of bills were held hostage for political leverage amid the re-pricing battle, resulted in a loss of a TAMFT priority.

Ultimately, the legislative eventually passed a series of bills during the Regular Session seeking to improve the power resiliency and reliability of the grid, as well as strengthening the connection between the state’s oil and gas industry with the electric industry, which has historically been regulated separately by the Railroad Commission and the PUC respectively. The adequacy of these reforms is quickly becoming a salient issue during campaign season and is likely gain further traction leading up to the general election.

### **3) New Speaker**

One of the more consequential factors of the session was selection of a new Speaker, along with attendant changes in House Committee assignments. Prior to the start of the session, Representative Dade Phelan (R-Beaumont), first elected in 2015, had secured enough bi-partisan legislative commitments in an open race, to secure the top post in the Texas House of Representatives, against several other Republican Speaker candidates. In the end, Phelan was elected by his peers by a vote of 143-2, with 4 members not voting. Recall that former House Speaker, Dennis Bonnen (R-Angleton), retired from office after a secret recording scandal that fractured relationships in the 150 member House.

With a new Speaker, comes new committee assignments, including membership changes to the committees that deliberate on mental health, insurance, and licensure issues. Overall, Phelan named 21 Republicans and 13 Democrats chairs of standing committees. Of the 34 standing committees, only 6 retained their current chairmanships, with 14 returning chairs being moved to new committees, leaving 14 committees with new chairs at the helm. 13 chairs and 21 vice chairs are women and/or minorities and 11 chairs and & vice chairs are from rural parts of the state while urban areas have- 24 chairs and 27 vice chairs.

Importantly, from TAMFTs perspective, there were leadership changes to 4 of the House committees where mental health issues are historically referred. They include: 1) Appropriations Chair, John Zerwas (R-Richmond) was replaced by Rep. Greg Bonnen (R-

Friendswood); 2) Calendars Chair Rep. Four Price (R-Amarillo) was replaced by Rep. Dustin Burrows (R-Lubbock); 3) Juvenile Justice & Family Issues Chair, Rep. Harold Dutton (D-Houston), was replaced by Rep. Victoria Neave (D-Dallas); and 4) Insurance Chair, Rep. Eddie Lucio III (D-Brownsville), was replaced by Rep. Tom Oliverson, MD (Cypress). Only Rep. James Frank (R-Wichita Falls), Chair of Human Services retained his seat.

Significant legislative changes to House leadership presented both challenges and opportunities to advancing TAMFTs agenda. Challenges by way of introducing and educating new chairs on highly nuanced mental health scope, reimbursement, BHEC funding and other related matters had to be done early, alongside COVID, Winter Storm Uri and the predictable inter-partisan fighting between Democrats and Republicans, but also some contentious intra-party fighting. The imprint of Speaker Phelan's first term during the 87<sup>th</sup> Regular Session was generally more aligned with Governor Abbott than Lt. Governor Patrick, especially on the response to Winter Storm Uri.

Despite the dramatic final weekend where House Democrats walked out, killing three Republican priorities, (election reform, bail reform and a local pre-emption bill), the 87<sup>th</sup> Regular Session was generally a triumph for conservatives who pushed through issues like permitless carry of handguns, more restrictive abortion laws, a ban on the teaching of critical race theory, election reform, and further limits on local control. Meanwhile issues like Medicaid expansion, gambling proposals and the state's major economic development program, which all enjoyed bipartisan support were not advanced.

What lies ahead for the House is unknown due to the unpredictability of election turnout, following a redistricting year with new voter restrictions in place. While Democrats remain optimistic about holding their seats, Republicans are out to increase their numbers in newly drawn lines. At this juncture, I strongly suspect that Speaker Phelan and his leadership team will strengthen their positions during his second term and that mental health issues will continue to be a subject of great interest.

#### **4) Redistricting**

Every 10 years, the census provides a snapshot of the country's population, which is used by state lawmakers to redraw electoral maps that last for a decade, a process referred to as redistricting or apportionment. The constitutionally mandated task of redistricting has evolved historically from a process that few people paid much attention to, an ultimate game of inside baseball, to one that is a bitterly partisan exercise with a decade's worth of political power on the line. The redistricting process is driven in large measure by the majority party, in Texas' case, Republicans, and hung in the background as another pervasive condition throughout the session, shaping the legislative climate, straining

relationships, creating anxiety, and often spilling into various policy debates. However, in the end, the legislature did pass all four (4) required redistricting maps, redrawing the House, Senate, Congressional and State Board of Education electoral boundaries during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Called Special Session.

Although the legal and procedural framework governing legislative redistricting under the Texas Constitution may remain the same, every decade sees a different, often unpredictable, path for state redistricting plans, depending on legislative, gubernatorial, Legislative Redistricting Board (LRB), and judicial action. While the order of the steps during the redistricting process remains legally consistent, the COVID-19 pandemic led to a delay in the release of 2020 census data.

Federal census population data is required by federal law to be delivered to state legislatures no later than April 1 of the year following the decennial census. However, the data needed to draw new state legislative, congressional, and State Board of Education (SBOE) redistricting lines to reflect population changes, were not available before sine die adjournment after the 87<sup>th</sup> Regular Session. Once the data was received, the numbers showed that Texas' population had grown significantly, particularly among people of color, but also unevenly, favoring urban growth over rural over the last decade.

In theory, redistricting is about revising district boundaries to evenly distribute Texas' fast-growing population and ensure voters across the state can be apportioned equally or close to equally in population or reasonably fair representation by communities of interest. However, with today's computer sophistication, the politically charged mapmaking process, with individual member survival and collective partisan power at stake, redistricting has also become an exercise in political engineering. Texas lawmakers drew political maps that would protect the GOP's majorities in the Texas Legislature, on the State Board of Education and within the state's congressional delegation.

Specifically, Republicans drew maps to entrench their power currently holding 23 of the state's 36 congressional districts, 82 of the state's 150 House seats and 18 of the state's 31 Senate seats. But in controlling the redrawing of the state's maps, they had to contend with population growth that is largely concentrated in areas where they are already in the minority and among populations that do not generally favor their party. Complicating matters setting certain maps in stone, is the pending litigation over of the State Senate and Congressional maps as being "gerrymandered" and discriminatory against voters of color. One thing is certain, the maps will limit swing districts and set up further "intra-party" competition.

## 5) Red Meat, Lots of It

Another notable takeaway from the Regular Session was the focus on “red-meat” partisan base or cultural centric issues that materialized beyond the typically more conservative Senate, energizing a large number of GOP House members, shaping debate throughout the capitol.

With President Trump at the top of the ticket in 2020, Republicans once again swept all statewide offices and also charted legislative gains, resulting in an ideologically emboldened and expectant cohort of the GOP base. This base was loud, angry, and clear that they would not be satisfied with any old “meat and potatoes” legislative agenda – they wanted red meat, lots of it, the rarer the better. Republican legislators, counting on their partisan majorities complied, pushing a wide-ranging and controversial agenda that included election law reforms, permitless handgun carry measures, citizen enforced abortion restrictions (SB 8, fetal heart bill), “critical race theory” curriculum bans, transgender youth constraints, national anthem requirements at sports events and other related measures.

Texas Democrats gamely resisted but were largely overwhelmed, as measure after measure passed each chamber on largely party-line votes. Democrats (both in Texas and nationwide) were most affronted by the now-famous HB 7, a proposed sweeping change of Texas election laws promoted by Republicans as “election integrity reform” but denounced by Democrats as voter suppression. In the final days of the session, frustrated House Democrats finally deployed their “nuclear option” to kill that bill and several others, dramatically walking out of the chamber and breaking quorum for the first time since 2003.

The Democrats’ victory of course was short-lived as Governor Greg Abbott quickly called for a 30-day special session beginning July 8, 2021, to force continued work on election law changes, public school curriculum and bail reform. Controversially, Governor Abbott also stretched the boundaries of the separation of powers doctrine, by “line item vetoing” appropriations for the legislative branch (Article X), to incentivize Democrats to return to Austin to restore that funding.

## II. TAMFT LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM & ADVOCACY

In terms of specific TAMFT session performance, I am pleased to report that our advocacy efforts made the difference in the passage or defeat of legislation of interest to TAMFT and mental health overall. Our session success was due in large measure to working cooperatively with others, leveraging our lobby assets, good strategic planning, a strong

work ethic, and effectively communicating with and the engagement of TAMFTs members for technical expertise and testimony.

What follows is a closer look at some specific issues where we were directly involved in the success or defeat of certain legislation. The following summary will highlight many of the achievements attributable to TAMFT, as well as certain efforts that are likely to be revisited in the future. Following that is a summary of other issues of interest, followed by a copy of the session bill track, which is provided for a better context of the breath of legislation affecting LMFTs or mental health during the 87<sup>th</sup> Session.

Recognizing the importance of prioritizing limited resources and wanting to maximize the opportunity to deliver membership and organizational value, TAMFT organizes their legislative program into three distinctive, but equally important categories, and remains an essential tool to enhance the overall effectiveness of the adopted state program and to provide members a mechanism to measure program success. Below you will find a description of the three proposed categories.

**Initiatives** – TAMFT will be pro-actively involved with through activities such as drafting of legislation, recruiting legislative sponsors for filing bills, providing committee testimony, negotiating bill language and other related activities needed to pursue passage of legislation, amendments, or budget riders. The criteria for considering an issue as an initiative include: LMFT Specific Impact; LMFT Disproportionately Impacted or TAMFT Involvement Critical to the Success or Failure of the Measure.

**Endorsements** –TAMFT will not be the primary advocate but will collaborate collectively with other parties such as the other mental health professional associations, to communicate the organization’s support for various appropriation decisions, legislative issues or amendments where appropriate. TAMFT will make known its support of an issue through a letter/card of support, public testimony, or lending its name to an advocacy effort, but will not take a leading legislative role.

**Defensive or Preservation Matters** – TAMFT will use its resources to oppose or favorably modify legislation, amendments or appropriation decisions identified as being detrimental to LMFT's, other mental health professionals, and or bad state policy as viewed by the Board or membership.

TAMFT identified and adopted four (4) specific initiatives, which are listed and summarized below.

***1. Continue to actively engage in the formation, staffing and funding of the Behavioral Health Executive Council (BHEC) to ensure this new, innovative approach succeeds as intended.***

**SB 1 by Nelson / G. Bonnen** – General Appropriations Act. TAMFT’s direct legislative advocacy and ongoing, close coordination with other mental health provider associations, resulted in the first, specific line-item budget since the formation of the Behavioral Health Executive Council (BHEC). BHEC can now found under Article VIII, the same article as the Texas Medical Board. BHEC was funded at the baseline level. Overall, BHEC received a biennial appropriation of \$9,696,579 or \$4,917,405 in 2022 and \$4,779,174 in 2023. In addition, BHEC also requested and received 4 additional full time equivalent (FTE) positions, enabling the newly formed agency to more personnel to assist with licensure issuance, renewals and to deal with complaints.

***2. Improve Access and Efficiency in Delivering Quality Mental Health Services.***

**HB 4 by Price / Buckingham** – Relating to the provision and delivery of certain health care services in this state, including services under Medicaid and other public benefits programs, using telecommunications or information technology and to reimbursement for some of those services. HB 4 as passed, with direct TAMFT, along with other mental health provider associations, requires the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish policies, procedures, and otherwise ensure certain health care services could be provided through telehealth, telemedicine, telecommunications, or other information technology.

By January 1, 2022, HHSC would have to ensure that enrollees in Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and other specified public benefits programs had the option to receive certain services as telemedicine or telehealth services, or otherwise use telecommunications or information technology, regardless of whether the services were provided through managed care or another delivery model. This provision would apply to the following services:

- preventative health and wellness;
- case management, including targeted case management;
- certain behavioral health services;
- occupational, physical, and speech therapy;
- nutritional counseling; and
- assessments, including nursing assessments under certain Section 1915(c) home and community-based services waiver programs.

HHSC would have to ensure the required service options were provided only if permitted by federal law and if the commission determined it was cost-effective and clinically effective. Under the bill, HHSC by rule would have to develop and implement a system to ensure behavioral health services could be provided using audio-only technology to enrollees in Medicaid, CHIP, and other specified public benefits programs. The executive commissioner of HHSC by rule could provide audio-only technology through nonbehavioral health services if the executive commissioner determined that using that technology would be cost-effective and clinically effective.

HB 4 took effect, June 2021 and HHSC is implementing audio-only provisions by January 1, 2022.

**HB 5 by Ashby / SB 506 by Nichols** – Relating to the expansion of broadband services to certain areas and establishes the Broadband Development Office, which is tasked with preparing a state broadband plan, creating a map of areas with limited access to broadband service, and awarding financial incentives in those eligible areas to expand access to service. Further, HB 5 authorizes the Broadband Development Office to establish a program to award grants, low-interest loans, and other financial incentives to expand access to broadband service in eligible areas. Development of a more robust broad infrastructure will help facilitate remote learning, access to telemedicine/telehealth, economic development, and other facets of life that hinge on the availability of quality high speed Internet.

HB 5 took effect, June 15, 2021.

### ***3. Extend Civil Liability Protections to Licensed Mental Health Professionals.***

**HB 549 by Thompson / Zaffirini** – Relating to exemptions from liability for certain professionals for the disclosure of certain mental health professionals, which was directly supported by TAMFT and some of the other mental health associations. Medical or mental health professionals can often prevent patient self-harm or harm to others when the professional discloses confidential information about a patient who displays behaviors that would cause the professional to believe that the patient is likely to cause imminent physical injury. HB 549 amends the Health and Safety Code to allow certain professionals working with a patient with a mental condition to disclose such confidential information if there is a probability of imminent physical injury by the patient to the patient or others or a probability of immediate mental or emotional injury to the patient. The bill protects health professionals by preventing a cause of action such a disclosure.



HB 549 took effect September 1, 2021, and applies only to disclosures of confidential information made on or after the effective date.

#### **4. Higher Education and Training of the Next Generation of Mental Healthcare Workers.**

**SB 1 by Nelson / G. Bonnen** – General Appropriations Act. TAMFT’s direct legislative advocacy and ongoing, close coordination with other mental health provider associations, resulted in an appropriation under the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)’s bill pattern, Rider 56 appropriating a total of \$2,071,876 for the Mental Health Loan Repayment Program or \$1,035,938 in 2022 and \$1,035,938 in 2023.

During the Special, the mental health coalition sought to increase funding for the Mental Health Loan Repayment Program with federal stimulus dollars, but the legislature did not end up adopting funds for that use.

However, during the interim, an opportunity to apply for a National Health Service Corps grant to augment the Texas loan repayment program. TAMFT, along with the other mental health provider associations have signed onto a letter supporting the THECB’s application.

**HB 3626 by Romero / Zaffirini** – relating to the licensing of certain out-of-state applicants as psychologist, marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, or social worker. To mitigate a shortage of licensed mental health professionals, HB 3626 would have amended current law to streamline the application process for LMFTs and LMFTAs in addition to certain other mental health professionals who are moving to Texas and seeking licensure reciprocity, which can be lengthy and burdensome process.

The bill passed the House overwhelmingly, 144 – 0, on May 7, 2022! Unfortunately, HB 3626, along with a large number of other House bills, fell victim to dark side of politics, including the deteriorating relationship between the House and Senate and was withdrawn on May 26, the last day for the Senate’s Local Calendar, killing the bill for the session.

TAMFT identified and adopted three (3) specific endorsements, which are listed and summarized below.

## ***1. Maintain or Enhance Mental Health Funding.***

While the cost effects of COVID, Winter Storm Uri and the growing partisan division rippled through the legislative process, TAMFT and other mental health advocates made the case that increased attention to mental health matters, including funding were of paramount importance. The legislature responded by strengthening access to mental health services. Outside of some divisive cultural initiatives, there was no major backsliding for mental health overall. See below some of the budget highlights for mental health funding.

### **SB 1 by Nelson / G. Bonnen – Behavioral Health**

- Funding includes \$4.3 billion in All Funds, including \$3.4 billion in General Revenue Funds and General Revenue– Dedicated Funds, for non-Medicaid/Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) behavioral health services. This funding supports programs at 25 agencies across six budget articles, and includes the following areas: funding for inpatient client services at state hospitals and community hospitals; outpatient services provided through local mental health authorities and local behavioral health authorities; substance abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment services for adults and children; mental healthcare and substance abuse treatment for incarcerated off enders; mental healthcare services for veterans; and other services.
- Medicaid expenditures for behavioral health services are estimated to total \$3.7 billion in All Funds for the 2022–23 biennium. CHIP expenditures are estimated to total \$98.9 million in All Funds. Total behavioral health-related funding, including estimated Medicaid and CHIP expenditures, is estimated to be \$8.1 billion in All Funds for the biennium.
- House Bill 2, Eighty-seventh Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, provides the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) with an additional \$321.3 million in Other Funds from the Economic Stabilization Fund during fiscal year 2021 to continue improvements to the state mental health hospital inpatient system. These funds are not included in the totals described previously, although they were appropriated for a two-year period, and it is likely that HHSC will spend the majority of the funds during the 2022–23 biennium.
- An increase of \$19.5 million to maintain operation of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium.

- o Over \$1 million in new funding for SB 64 by Nelson, creating a peer-to-peer counseling network and increased access to licensed mental health providers for Texas Law Enforcement Officers.

## ***2. Safeguard Mental Health Parity Protections and Advance Pay Parity***

TAMFT collaborated diligently with other like-minded stakeholders and legislators to increase mental health parity in coverage and reimbursement for services provided in Texas, although no legislation passed. TAMFT will continue to work with legislators and the other mental health licensees. However, there were several bills introduced on the topic, including the following:

**HB 706 by Moody / SB 909 by Powell** – Relating to the provision of counseling services by certain providers under Medicaid and reimbursement for those services.

**HB 980 by Rep. Fierro** – Relating to the reimbursement and payment of claims by certain health benefit plan issuers for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services.

**HB 515 by Rep. Oliverson** - Relating to the reimbursement and payment of claims by certain health benefit plan issuers for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services.

**HB 522 by Rep. Julie Johnson/SB 228 by Cesar Blanco** - Relating to the reimbursement and payment of claims by certain health benefit plan issuers for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services.

## ***3. Support for Public Provider Council***

**HB 2595 by Price** – creates a portal for complaints by health benefit plan enrollees regarding mental health parity and requires the development of additional educational materials and training on parity law for mental health conditions. SB 179 also would designate October as Mental Health Condition and Substance Use Disorder Parity Awareness Month to increase awareness of and compliance with state and federal requirements regarding benefits for mental health conditions and substance use disorders. While not a designated Public Provider Counsel at TDI, passage of HB 2595 is a notable positive step by requiring the commissioner of insurance to develop and maintain a parity complaint portal so that a health benefit plan enrollee is able to submit complaints of suspected violations of statutory provisions relating to health benefit plan coverage for mental health conditions and substance use disorders.

HB 2595 took effect on September 1, 2021.

TAMFT identified and tracked numerous defense legislation, which can be reviewed in the final bill track as there are too many to analyze. However, there were no bills that passed that would have jeopardized LMFTs eligibility to be a Medicaid provider, reduced mental health provider reimbursements, excluded LMFTs from certain practice settings or rolled back provisions of the BHEC.

### III. OTHER LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

#### **OTHER MENTAL HEALTH LEGISLATION OF INTEREST**

**SB 279 by Hinojosa / HB 1014 by Bucy** – SB 279 requires certain contact information for suicide prevention to be printed on all public school student ID cards for grades 7-12, as well as community colleges and public universities. The net result is a notable step in helping prevent suicide prevention, by fostering greater awareness, equipping students as young as 12 years old with easily accessible suicide prevention telephone hotline numbers on a student's ID cards as a resource for potential lifesaving help.

SB 279 took effect on September 1, 2021.

**SB 179 by Lucio / Huberty** – Relating to the use of public counselors work time. SB 179 requires the board of trustees of each school district to adopt a policy that requires a school counselor to spend at least 80% of the school counselor's total work time on duties associated with counseling and guidance.

SB 179 took effect on September 1, 2021.

**SB 672 by Buckingham / HB 2834 by G. Bonnen** – Relating to Medicaid coverage of certain collaborative care management services. SB 672 require HHSC to reimburse a treating health care provider participating in Medicaid who provided behavioral health services classified as collaborative care management services.

SB 672 took effect on September 1, 2001.

**HB 2093 by Rep. Cortez** – Relating to including certain licensed physician assistants in the definition of non-physician mental health professionals for purposes of certain provisions applicable to non-physician mental health professionals. HB 2093 adds to the definition of “non-physician mental health professionals”. HB 2093 narrows application to physician assistants who have expertise in psychiatry or are currently working in a mental health facility.

HB 2093 took effect on September 1, 2021.

**SB 64 by Nelson / James White** – Relating to a peer support network for certain law enforcement personnel. SB 64 would require the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) to develop a peer support network for law enforcement officers by January 1, 2022. The network is to include:

- Peer-to-peer support;
- Training for peer service coordinators and peers that included suicide prevention training;
- Technical assistance for program development, peer service coordinators, licensed mental health professionals, and peers; and
- Identification, retention, and screening of licensed mental health professionals.

In addition, TCOLE is required to produce an annual report submitted a report to the Governor and Legislature by December 1 of each year that includes:

- The number of law enforcement officers who received peer support through the peer support network for law enforcement officers;
- The number of peers and peer service coordinators trained;
- An evaluation of the services provided by the network; and
- Recommendations for program improvements.

SB 672 took effect on September 1, 2001.

# TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY 87TH REGULAR SESSION

## LEGISLATION OF INTERSET

TAMFT		
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 2</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Bonnen, Greg(R)</a> <a href="#">Nelson, Jane(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to making supplemental appropriations and reductions in appropriations and giving direction and adjustment authority regarding appropriations.</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 6-18-21 G Earliest effective date</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 4</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Price, Four(R)</a> <a href="#">Buckingham, Dawn(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to telemedicine, telehealth, and technology-related health care services.</p> <p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 974</a> Price, Four(R) (Identical) 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health</p> <p><a href="#">SB 412</a> Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical) 3-23-21 S Committee action pending Senate Health and Human Services</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 6-15-21 G Earliest effective date</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 5</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Ashby, Trent(R)</a> <a href="#">Nichols, Robert(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the expansion of broadband services to certain areas.</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 6-15-21 G Earliest effective date</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 28</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Neave, Victoria(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to social work services in public schools.</p> <p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 239</a> Farrar, Jessica(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)</p> <p><a href="#">SB 209</a> Rodriguez, Jose(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)</p> <p><a href="#">HB 226</a> Bernal, Diego(D) (Identical) 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education</p> <p><a href="#">SB 253</a> Menendez, Jose(D) (Identical) 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 68</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Toth, Steve(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the definition of abuse of a child.</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 78</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Reynolds, Ron(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the creation of a mental health treatment for incarceration diversion pilot program.</p>

**Companions:** [HB 3620](#) Reynolds, Ron(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)

**Last Action:** 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Corrections

[T](#) [HB 128](#) [Landgraf, Brooks\(R\)](#) Relating to development corporation projects for the provision of health care and mental health care to the public.

**Last Action:** 3- 9-21 H Removed from hearing 03/10/21, House International Relations/Economic Dev

[T](#) [HB 140](#) [Rose, Toni\(D\)](#) Relating to the applicability of the death penalty to a capital offense committed by a person with severe mental illness.

**Last Action:** 5-17-21 S Received in the Senate

[T](#) [HB 155](#) [Rose, Toni\(D\)](#) Relating to the office of minority statistics and engagement in the Department of Family and Protective Services.

**Companions:** [HB 3613](#) Rose, Toni(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)

[SB 487](#) Watson, Kirk(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)

[SB 75](#) Miles, Borris(D) (Identical)  
3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

**Last Action:** 3- 5-21 H Removed from hearing 03/09/21, House Human Services

[T](#) [HB 159](#) [Gonzalez, Mary\(D\)](#)  
[Lucio, Eddie\(D\)](#) Relating to improving training and staff development for primary and secondary educators to enable them to more effectively serve all students.

**Companions:** [SB 180](#) Lucio, Eddie(D) (Identical)  
4-30-21 S Recommended for Local/Uncontested Calendar

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

[T](#) [HB 164](#) [Meza, Terry\(D\)](#) Relating to extreme risk protective orders.

**Companions:** [HB 395](#) Moody, Joe(D) (Identical)  
2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Homeland Security and Public Safety

**Last Action:** 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Homeland Security and Public Safety

[T](#) [HB 168](#) [Gonzalez, Mary\(D\)](#) Relating to the regulation of child-care facilities and registered family homes providing services to children with disabilities or special needs.

**Companions:** [HB 4450](#) Gonzalez, Mary(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)

**Last Action:** 3-16-21 H Committee action pending House Human Services

**T** [HB 220](#) [Bernal, Diego\(D\)](#)

Relating to establishing resource campuses to improve a public school campus not performing satisfactorily.

**Last Action:** 4-30-21 H Reported from committee as substituted House Public Education

**T** [HB 226](#) [Bernal, Diego\(D\)](#)

Relating to social work services in public schools.

**Companions:** [HB 239](#) Farrar, Jessica(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)  
[SB 209](#) Rodriguez, Jose(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)  
[HB 28](#) Neave, Victoria(D) (Identical)  
2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education  
[SB 253](#) Menendez, Jose(D) (Identical)  
3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education

**Last Action:** 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education

**T** [HB 232](#) [Thompson, Senfronia\(D\)](#)

Relating to the placement on community supervision, including deferred adjudication community supervision, of a defendant who is the primary caretaker of a child.

**Companions:** [HB 1389](#) Thompson, Senfronia(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)

**Last Action:** 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Corrections

**T** [HB 240](#) [Thompson, Senfronia\(D\)](#)

Relating to the requirement and study of insurance coverage for serious emotional disturbance of a child.

**Companions:** [SB 51](#) Zaffirini, Judith(D) (Identical)  
3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

**Last Action:** 5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar

**T** [HB 260](#) [Thompson, Senfronia\(D\)](#)

Relating to an exemption from civil liability for certain professionals for the disclosure of certain mental health information.

**Companions:** [HB 461](#) Thompson, Senfronia(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)



		<b>Last Action:</b>	2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
Ⓣ	HB 280	<a href="#">Cortez, Philip(D)</a>	Relating to an action plan to expand telemedicine medical services and telehealth services and increase access to critical medical care and health care services in this state.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
Ⓣ	HB 297	<a href="#">Murr, Andrew(R)</a> <a href="#">Buckingham, Dawn(R)</a>	Relating to in-service training on prevention of abuse, neglect, and illegal, unprofessional, and unethical conduct provided by certain health care facilities.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	5-26-21 S Withdrawn from the Local Calendar
Ⓣ	HB 326	<a href="#">Howard, Donna(D)</a>	Relating to workplace violence prevention in certain health care facilities.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	4-19-21 S Received in the Senate
Ⓣ	HB 385	<a href="#">Pacheco, Leo(D)</a> <a href="#">Hughes, Bryan(R)</a>	Relating to conditions of community supervision and procedures applicable to the reduction or termination of a defendant's period of community supervision.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date
Ⓣ	HB 395	<a href="#">Moody, Joe(D)</a>	Relating to extreme risk protective orders.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 164</a> Meza, Terry(D) (Identical) 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Homeland Security and Public Safety
		<b>Last Action:</b>	2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Homeland Security and Public Safety
Ⓣ	HB 403	<a href="#">Hernandez, Ana(D)</a>	Relating to exempting certain individuals who are homeless from the payment of tuition and fees at public institutions of higher education.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Higher Education
Ⓣ	HB 407	<a href="#">Hernandez, Ana(D)</a>	Relating to unprofessional conduct by mental health providers who attempt to change the sexual orientation of a child.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 560</a> Israel, Celia(D) (Identical) 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
		<b>Last Action:</b>	2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
Ⓣ	HB 423	<a href="#">King, Ken(R)</a>	Relating to the drug testing of certain persons seeking benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

		<b>Last Action:</b>	2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services
Ⓣ	<a href="#">HB 449</a>	<a href="#">Turner, Chris(D)</a>	Relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to fund capital projects at certain public institutions of higher education.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 1680</a> Miles, Borris(D) (Identical) 3-24-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Higher Education
		<b>Last Action:</b>	2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Higher Education
Ⓣ	<a href="#">HB 457</a>	<a href="#">Shaheen, Matt(R)</a>	Relating to a local option exemption from ad valorem taxation by a county of a portion of the value of the residence homestead of a physician who provides health care services.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 453</a> Shaheen, Matt(R) (Refiled from 86R Session)
		<b>Last Action:</b>	4-19-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Local Government
Ⓣ	<a href="#">HB 486</a>	<a href="#">Wu, Gene(D)</a>	Relating to the age of criminal responsibility and to certain substantive and procedural matters related to that age.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 1273</a> Crockett, Jasmine (F)(D) (Identical) 3- 4-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-22-21 H Committee action pending House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues
Ⓣ	<a href="#">HB 508</a>	<a href="#">Beckley, Michelle(D)</a>	Relating to health benefit plan coverage of preexisting conditions.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance
Ⓣ	<a href="#">HB 515</a>	<a href="#">Oliverson, Tom(R)</a>	Relating to the reimbursement and payment of claims by certain health benefit plan issuers for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 522</a> Johnson, Julie(D) (Identical) 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance <a href="#">HB 980</a> Fierro, Art(D) (Identical) 5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar <a href="#">SB 228</a> Blanco, Cesar (F)(D) (Identical) 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance

**T**  [HB 522](#) [Johnson, Julie\(D\)](#) Relating to the reimbursement and payment of claims by certain health benefit plan issuers for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services.

**Companions:** [HB 515](#) Oliverson, Tom(R) (Identical)  
3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance  
[HB 980](#) Fierro, Art(D) (Identical)  
5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar  
[SB 228](#) Blanco, Cesar (F)(D) (Identical)  
3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

**Last Action:** 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance

**T**  [HB 525](#) [Shaheen, Matt\(R\)](#)  
[Hall, Bob\(R\)](#) Relating to the protection of religious organizations.

**Last Action:** 6-18-21 G Earliest effective date

**T**  [HB 549](#) [Thompson, Senfronia\(D\)](#)  
[Zaffirini, Judith\(D\)](#) Relating to an exemption from civil liability for certain professionals for the disclosure of certain mental health information.

**Companions:** [SB 1143](#) Zaffirini, Judith(D) (Identical)  
3-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

**T**  [HB 560](#) [Israel, Celia\(D\)](#) Relating to unprofessional conduct by mental health providers who attempt to change the sexual orientation of a child.

**Companions:** [HB 407](#) Hernandez, Ana(D) (Identical)  
2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health

**Last Action:** 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health

**T**  [HB 567](#) [Frank, James\(R\)](#)  
[Hughes, Bryan\(R\)](#) Relating to the procedures and grounds for terminating the parent-child relationship, for taking possession of a child, and for certain hearings in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship.

**Companions:** [SB 190](#) Hughes, Bryan(R) (Identical)  
4- 6-21 S Committee action pending Senate State Affairs

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

**T**  [HB 573](#) [Oliverson, Tom\(R\)](#) Relating to the operation of health care sharing ministries.

**Companions:** [SB 1271](#) Schwertner, Charles(R) (Identical)

			3-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
	<b>Last Action:</b>		5-13-21 H Bill pronounced dead by procedural action
Ⓣ	HB 602	<a href="#">Hinojosa, Gina(D)</a>	Relating to the provision of comprehensive health care benefits coverage through a publicly funded program to be known as the Healthy Texas Program.
	<b>Last Action:</b>		3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance
Ⓣ	HB 610	<a href="#">Swanson, Valoree(R)</a>	Relating to judicial review of certain local laws applicable to state license holders.
	<b>Last Action:</b>		5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar
Ⓣ	HB 697	<a href="#">Rosenthal, Jon(D)</a>	Relating to requiring entities that provide mental health services to veterans to provide military cultural competency training to personnel to accept a grant from a state agency.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 2307</a>	Rosenthal, Jon (F)(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)
	<b>Last Action:</b>		5-13-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Veteran Affairs and Border Security
Ⓣ	HB 706	<a href="#">Moody, Joe(D)</a>	Relating to the provision of counseling services by certain providers under Medicaid and reimbursement for those services.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 909</a>	Powell, Beverly(D) (Identical) 3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
	<b>Last Action:</b>		4-20-21 H Committee action pending House Human Services
Ⓣ	HB 745	<a href="#">Guerra, Bobby(D)</a>	Relating to the establishment of telehealth programs by public schools.
	<b>Last Action:</b>		3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education
Ⓣ	HB 771	<a href="#">Allison, Steve(R)</a>	Relating to the inclusion of instruction about bullying and cyberbullying in the required curriculum for public school students.
	<b>Last Action:</b>		3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education
Ⓣ	HB 887	<a href="#">Shaheen, Matt(R)</a>	Relating to telemedicine medical services and telehealth services covered by certain health benefit plans or provided by a pharmacist.
	<b>Last Action:</b>		3-30-21 H Committee action pending House Insurance

- T** **HB 898** [White, James\(R\)](#) Relating to an interagency grant program to support and sustain the operations of community recovery organizations.  
**Last Action:** 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
- T** **HB 939** [Raymond, Richard\(D\)](#) Relating to required access to care and provider network provisions in a contract between the Health and Human Services Commission and a Medicaid managed care organization.  
**Last Action:** 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services
- T** **HB 967** [Dutton, Harold\(D\)](#) Relating to the age of criminal responsibility and to certain substantive and procedural matters related to that age.  
**Last Action:** 4-19-21 H Reported from committee as substituted House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues
- T** **HB 970** [Dutton, Harold\(D\)](#) Relating to prosecutorial transparency.  
**Last Action:** 4-19-21 H Committee action pending House Criminal Jurisprudence
- T** **HB 974** [Price, Four\(R\)](#) Relating to telemedicine, telehealth, and technology-related health care services.  
**Companions:** [HB 4](#) Price, Four(R) (Identical) 6-15-21 G Earliest effective date  
[SB 412](#) Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical) 3-23-21 S Committee action pending Senate Health and Human Services  
**Last Action:** 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
- T** **HB 980** [Fierro, Art\(D\)](#) Relating to the reimbursement and payment of claims by certain health benefit plan issuers for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services.  
**Companions:** [HB 515](#) Oliverson, Tom(R) (Identical) 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance  
[HB 522](#) Johnson, Julie(D) (Identical) 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance  
[SB 228](#) Blanco, Cesar (F)(D) (Identical) 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce  
**Last Action:** 5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar
- T** **HB 982** [Howard, Donna\(D\)](#) Relating to an expedited licensing process for certain advanced practice registered nurses.

		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
 	<a href="#">HB 1014</a>	<a href="#">Bucy, John(D)</a> <a href="#">Hinojosa, Chuy(D)</a>	Relating to the inclusion of suicide prevention information on certain student identification cards issued by a public or private school or postsecondary educational institution.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	5-20-21 S Removed from hearing 05/21/21, Senate Education
 	<a href="#">HB 1050</a>	<a href="#">Romero, Ramon(D)</a>	Relating to a study on employing mental health professionals or mental health response teams to assist when responding to a behavioral health-related emergency call.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 539</a> Blanco, Cesar (F)(D) (Identical) 3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 4-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
 	<a href="#">HB 1055</a>	<a href="#">Morales, Christina(D)</a>	Relating to the employment of health care professionals at public schools.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 4-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education
 	<a href="#">HB 1092</a>	<a href="#">Romero, Ramon(D)</a>	Relating to the verification of the veteran status of inmates and prisoners.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	5-10-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Veteran Affairs and Border Security
 	<a href="#">HB 1114</a>	<a href="#">Thierry, Shawn(D)</a>	Relating to providing mental health services and mental health education to public school students at school-based health centers.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 325</a> West, Royce(D) (Identical) 5- 6-21 S Placed on the Senate Calendar for
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-25-21 H Reported favorably from committee on House Public Education
 	<a href="#">HB 1144</a>	<a href="#">Ramos, Ana-Maria(D)</a>	Relating to staff development requirements for public educators regarding suicide prevention and other mental health training.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar
 	<a href="#">HB 1205</a>	<a href="#">Guillen, Ryan(R)</a>	Relating to a student loan repayment assistance program for certain professionals for exceptional service to the State of Texas during the coronavirus pandemic.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 32</a> Zaffirini, Judith(D) (Identical) 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Higher Education

		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 4-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Higher Education
  <a href="#">HB 1239</a>	<a href="#">Sanford, Scott(R)</a> <a href="#">Paxton, Angela(R)</a>		Relating to prohibited suspension of laws protecting religious freedom and prohibited closure of places of worship.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 26</a>	Paxton, Angela(R) (Identical) 4- 6-21 H Referred to House Committee on House State Affairs
		<a href="#">SB 251</a>	Paxton, Angela(R) (Identical) 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs
		<b>Last Action:</b>	6-16-21 G Earliest effective date
  <a href="#">HB 1254</a>	<a href="#">Shaheen, Matt(R)</a>		Relating to the emergency detention of certain persons with a mental illness or cognitive disability.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 4-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
  <a href="#">HB 1263</a>	<a href="#">Gervin-Hawkins, Barbara(D)</a>		Relating to reimbursement of health care providers under Medicaid.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 4-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services
  <a href="#">HB 1273</a>	<a href="#">Crockett, Jasmine (F)(D)</a>		Relating to the age of criminal responsibility and to certain substantive and procedural matters related to that age.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 486</a>	Wu, Gene(D) (Identical) 3-22-21 H Committee action pending House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 4-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues
  <a href="#">HB 1384</a>	<a href="#">Thierry, Shawn(D)</a>		Relating to required suicide prevention training for certain health care practitioners.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 5-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
  <a href="#">HB 1398</a>	<a href="#">White, James(R)</a>		Relating to the verification of the veteran status of prisoners confined in county jails.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-15-21 H Committee action pending House Defense and Veterans' Affairs
  <a href="#">HB 1445</a>	<a href="#">Oliverson, Tom(R)</a> <a href="#">Nichols, Robert(R)</a>		Relating to the applicability of the sales and use tax to certain insurance services.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	1- 1-22 G Earliest effective date
  <a href="#">HB 1446</a>	<a href="#">Ashby, Trent(R)</a>		Relating to the expansion of broadband services to certain areas.

**Companions:** [SB 506](#) Nichols, Robert(R) (Identical)  
3- 9-21 S Introduced and referred to  
committee on Senate Transportation

**Last Action:** 3- 5-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on  
House State Affairs

Ⓣ ⌋ [HB](#)  
[1559](#)

[Howard, Donna\(D\)](#)

Relating to the Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment  
Assistance Program.

**Companions:** [SB 358](#) Hinojosa, Chuy(D) (Refiled  
from 86R  
Session)  
[SB 575](#) Hinojosa, Chuy(D) (Identical)  
3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to  
committee on Senate Higher Education

**Last Action:** 3- 8-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on  
House Higher Education

Ⓣ ⌋ [HB](#)  
[1560](#)

[Goldman, Craig\(R\)](#)  
[Buckingham, Dawn\(R\)](#)

Relating to the continuation and functions of the  
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

**Companions:** [SB 714](#) Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical)  
3-18-21 S Introduced and referred to  
committee on Senate Business and  
Commerce

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

Ⓣ ⌋ [HB](#)  
[1598](#)

[Johnson, Jarvis\(D\)](#)

Relating to the creation of the office of independent  
oversight ombudsman for the Texas Department of  
Criminal Justice.

**Companions:** [SB 1980](#) Miles, Borris(D) (Identical)  
3-31-21 S Introduced and referred to  
committee on Senate Criminal Justice

**Last Action:** 3- 8-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on  
House Corrections

Ⓣ ⌋ [HB](#)  
[1616](#)

[Bonnen, Greg\(R\)](#)  
[Huffman, Joan\(R\)](#)

Relating to the Interstate Medical Licensure  
Compact.

**Companions:** [SB 517](#) Huffman, Joan(R) (Identical)  
3- 9-21 S Introduced and referred to  
committee on Senate Health and Human  
Services

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

Ⓣ ⌋ [HB](#)  
[1633](#)

[Guillen, Ryan\(R\)](#)

Relating to the audiology and speech-language  
pathology interstate compact.

**Companions:** [SB 1497](#) Kolkhorst, Lois(R) (Identical)  
3-24-21 S Introduced and referred to  
committee on Senate Health and Human  
Services



<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 1666</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Thierry, Shawn(D)</a></p>	<p><b>Last Action:</b> 5-17-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Health and Human Services</p>
		<p>Relating to providing access to local health departments and certain health service regional offices under Medicaid.</p>
		<p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 3834</a> Klick, Stephanie(R) (Identical) 3-23-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services <a href="#">SB 73</a> Miles, Borris(D) (Identical) 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date</p>
		<p><b>Last Action:</b> 3- 9-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 1713</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Dominguez, Alex(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the employment of certain mental health professionals at a public school campus.</p>
		<p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 4033</a> Dominguez, Alex (F)(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)</p>
		<p><b>Last Action:</b> 3-10-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 1722</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Goodwin, Vikki(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the reimbursement and payment of claims for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services under certain health benefit plans.</p>
		<p><b>Last Action:</b> 3-10-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 1742</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Guerra, Bobby(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the practice of dentistry and the provision of teledentistry dental services.</p>
		<p><b>Last Action:</b> 3-31-21 H Committee action pending House Public Health</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 1841</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Lambert, Stan(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to mental health services development plans as updated by local mental health authority groups.</p>
		<p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">SB 454</a> Kolkhorst, Lois(R) (Identical) 6- 4-21 G Earliest effective date</p>
		<p><b>Last Action:</b> 3-11-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">HB 1903</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Walle, Armando(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact.</p>
		<p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">SB 458</a> Lucio, Eddie(D) (Identical) 3- 9-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services</p>
		<p><b>Last Action:</b> 5- 4-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Health and Human Services</p>

T  HB  
1999

Canales, Terry(D)

Relating to a specialty mental health court program for juveniles.

**Last Action:** 3-24-21 H Removed from hearing 03/29/21, House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues

T  HB  
2029

Klick, Stephanie(R)

Relating to the licensing and authority of advanced practice registered nurses.

**Companions:** SB 915 Hancock, Kelly(R) (Identical)  
3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

**Last Action:** 3-24-21 H Committee action pending House Public Health

T  HB  
2093

Cortez, Philip(D)  
Blanco, Cesar (F)(D)

Relating to including licensed physician assistants in the definition of non-physician mental health professional for purposes of certain provisions applicable to non-physician mental health professionals.

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

T  HB  
2287

Thompson, Senfronia(D)  
Powell, Beverly(D)

Relating to data collection by and consultation with the Collaborative Task Force on Public School Mental Health Services regarding the task force's duties and requiring the Texas Education Agency to report on mental health.

**Companions:** SB 920 Powell, Beverly(D) (Identical)  
3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

T  HB  
2313

Leach, Jeff(R)

Relating to a required resource access assistance offer before an abortion is performed.

**Companions:** SB 802 Paxton, Angela(R) (Identical)  
5-25-21 H Set on the House Calendar

**Last Action:** 5-11-21 H Reported from committee as substituted House Public Health

T  HB  
2473

Johnson, Ann (F)(D)

Relating to the licensing and regulation of music therapists.

**Companions:** SB 1452 Alvarado, Carol(D) (Identical)  
3-24-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

**Last Action:** 5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar

T  HB  
2595

Price, Four(R)

Relating to educational materials and parity law training regarding benefits for mental health conditions and substance use disorders to be made

available through a complaint portal and otherwise.

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

T HB  
2670

[Guillen, Ryan\(R\)](#)

Relating to the eligibility of social workers for the Homes for Texas Heroes home loan program.

**Companions:** [SB 1024](#) Lucio, Eddie(D) (Identical)  
3-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Local Government

**Last Action:** 5-14-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Local Government

T HB  
2792

[Darby, Drew\(R\)](#)

Relating to a pilot project to provide emergency telemedicine medical services in rural areas.

**Last Action:** 5-26-21 S Withdrawn from the Local Calendar

T HB  
2834

[Bonnen, Greg\(R\)](#)

Relating to Medicaid coverage of certain collaborative care management services.

**Companions:** [SB 672](#) Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical)  
9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

**Last Action:** 4-20-21 H Committee action pending House Human Services

T HB  
2954

[Thompson, Senfronia\(D\)](#)  
[Powell, Beverly\(D\)](#)

Relating to a suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention program for certain public elementary school campuses.

**Companions:** [SB 980](#) Powell, Beverly(D) (Identical)  
4-20-21 S Committee action pending Senate Education

**Last Action:** 5-25-21 S Reported from committee as substituted Senate Education

T HB  
3037

[Raymond, Richard\(D\)](#)  
[Miles, Borris\(D\)](#)

Relating to the regulation of referral agencies for senior living communities.

**Last Action:** 5-26-21 S Placed on the Senate Calendar for

T HB  
3088

[Coleman, Garnet\(D\)](#)  
[Kolkhorst, Lois\(R\)](#)

Relating to the administration of county mental health grant services established by the Health and Human Services Commission.

**Last Action:** 6-14-21 G Earliest effective date

T HB  
3118

[Morales, Eddie \(F\)\(D\)](#)

Relating to the eligibility to act as a supervisor in certain counties for an applicant for a license as a professional counselor.

**Last Action:** 3-19-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health




T HB  
3196

[Meza, Terry\(D\)](#)

Relating to the prohibition of the provision of conversion therapy to an individual by health care providers and certain entities.

		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-19-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
Ⓣ	Γ	<u>HB</u> <u>3218</u>	<u>Schaefer, Matt(R)</u> Relating to the regulation of abortion, including information regarding perinatal palliative care and prohibiting discriminatory abortions.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<u>SB 1173</u> Hancock, Kelly(R) (Identical) 4-28-21 H Reported favorably from committee on House Public Health
		<b>Last Action:</b>	5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar
Ⓣ	Γ	<u>HB</u> <u>3245</u>	<u>Dutton, Harold(D)</u> Relating to eliminating the court appointed advocates.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-19-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues
Ⓣ	Γ	<u>HB</u> <u>3300</u>	<u>Allison, Steve(R)</u> Relating to certain school district staff development requirements and including certain information regarding substance abuse and suicidal tendencies in the essential knowledge and skills of the public school health curricula
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-19-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education
Ⓣ	Γ	<u>HB</u> <u>3315</u>	<u>Crockett, Jasmine (F)(D)</u> Relating to the creation of a pretrial intervention program for certain youth offenders.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	5-14-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Criminal Justice
Ⓣ	Γ	<u>HB</u> <u>3396</u>	<u>Meza, Terry(D)</u> Relating to provision of behavioral health services under Medicaid using audio-only technology and to reimbursement for those services.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<u>SB 1275</u> West, Royce(D) (Identical) 3-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-22-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
Ⓣ	Γ	<u>HB</u> <u>3459</u>	<u>Bonnen, Greg(R)</u> <u>Buckingham, Dawn(R)</u> Relating to preauthorization and utilization review for certain health benefit plans.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<u>SB 1883</u> Buckingham, Dawn(R) (Identical) 3-26-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
		<b>Last Action:</b>	9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date
Ⓣ	Γ	<u>HB</u> <u>3499</u>	<u>Frank, James(R)</u> Relating to the provision of telehealth services by health professionals located outside of this state.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<u>SB 992</u> Hancock, Kelly(R) (Identical)

			3-30-21 S Committee action pending Senate Business and Commerce
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-22-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health	
T	HB 3626	<a href="#">Romero, Ramon(D)</a> <a href="#">Zaffirini, Judith(D)</a>	Relating to the licensing of certain out-of-state applicants as a psychologist, marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, or social worker.
	<b>Last Action:</b>	5-26-21 S Withdrawn from the Local Calendar	
T	HB 3728	<a href="#">Button, Angie Chen(R)</a>	Relating to a school psychologist licensed under the Occupations Code.
	<b>Last Action:</b>	5- 5-21 H Vote failed in committee on House Public Health	
T	HB 3821	<a href="#">Hunter, Todd(R)</a> <a href="#">Menendez, Jose(D)</a>	Relating to employing and training mental health professionals for the mental health program for veterans.
	<b>Last Action:</b>	9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date	
T	HB 3914	<a href="#">Ortega, Lina(D)</a>	Relating to the inclusion of adults with mental illness in reduced-fare programs of public transportation providers.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 2126</a> Blanco, Cesar (F)(D) (Identical) 3-31-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Transportation	
	<b>Last Action:</b>	5- 4-21 H Recommended for Local and Consent Calendar	
T	HB 4014	<a href="#">Hefner, Cole(R)</a>	Relating to the protection of children, including the definition of child abuse and the prosecution of the criminal offense of abandoning or endangering a child.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 1646</a> Perry, Charles(R) (Identical) 5- 3-21 H Referred to House Committee on House Public Health	
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-29-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health	
T	HB 4074	<a href="#">Hunter, Todd(R)</a> <a href="#">Menendez, Jose(D)</a>	Relating to the collection and use of suicide data by the statewide behavioral health coordinating council.
	<b>Last Action:</b>	6-18-21 G Earliest effective date	
T	HB 4284	<a href="#">Holland, Justin(R)</a>	Relating to the creation of the opioid abatement account.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 1827</a> Huffman, Joan(R) (Identical) 6-16-21 G Earliest effective date	
	<b>Last Action:</b>	5- 4-21 H Committee action pending House Appropriations	

<p><b>T</b>  <a href="#">HB 4362</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Klick, Stephanie(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the licensing and regulation of certain health professions.</p>
<p><b>Last Action:</b> 3-29-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health</p>		
<p><b>T</b>  <a href="#">HJR 25</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Shaheen, Matt(R)</a></p>	<p>Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing a local option exemption from ad valorem taxation by a county of a portion of the value of the residence homestead of a physician.</p>
<p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HJR 33</a> Shaheen, Matt(R) (Refiled from 86R Session)</p>		
<p><b>Last Action:</b> 4-19-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Local Government</p>		
<p><b>T</b>  <a href="#">SB 1</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Nelson, Jane(R)</a> <a href="#">Bonnen, Greg(R)</a></p>	<p>General Appropriations Bill.</p>
<p><b>Last Action:</b> 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date</p>		
<p><b>T</b>  <a href="#">SB 8</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Hughes, Bryan(R)</a> <a href="#">Slawson, Shelby (F)(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to abortion, including abortions after detection of an unborn child's heartbeat.</p>
<p><b>Last Action:</b> 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date</p>		
<p><b>T</b>  <a href="#">SB 32</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Zaffirini, Judith(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to a student loan repayment assistance program for certain professionals for exceptional service to the State of Texas during the coronavirus pandemic.</p>
<p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 1205</a> Guillen, Ryan(R) (Identical) 3- 4-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Higher Education</p>		
<p><b>Last Action:</b> 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Higher Education</p>		
<p><b>T</b>  <a href="#">SB 40</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Zaffirini, Judith(D)</a> <a href="#">Price, Four(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the use of telehealth in health professional programs administered by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.</p>
<p><b>Last Action:</b> 6- 3-21 G Earliest effective date</p>		
<p><b>T</b>  <a href="#">SB 41</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Zaffirini, Judith(D)</a> <a href="#">Leach, Jeff(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the consolidation and allocation of state civil court costs.</p>
<p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">SB 39</a> Zaffirini, Judith(D) (Refiled from 86R Session) <a href="#">HB 4417</a> Moody, Joe(D) (Identical) 3-29-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence</p>		
<p><b>Last Action:</b> 1- 1-22 G Earliest effective date</p>		
<p><b>T</b>  <a href="#">SB 51</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Zaffirini, Judith(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the requirement and study of insurance coverage for serious emotional disturbance of a child.</p>

**Companions:** [HB 240](#) Thompson, Senfronia(D) (Identical)  
5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar

**Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

T

[SB 64](#)

[Nelson, Jane\(R\)](#)  
[White, James\(R\)](#)

Relating to a mental health program that includes peer-to-peer counseling for certain law enforcement personnel.

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

T

[SB 73](#)

[Miles, Borris\(D\)](#)  
[Klick, Stephanie\(R\)](#)

Relating to providing access to local health departments and certain health service regional offices under Medicaid.

**Companions:** [HB 1666](#) Thierry, Shawn(D) (Identical)  
3- 9-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services  
[HB 3834](#) Klick, Stephanie(R) (Identical)  
3-23-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services

**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date

T

[SB 91](#)

[Menendez, Jose\(D\)](#)

Relating to coverage for serious mental illness under certain group health benefit plans.

**Companions:** [SB 107](#) Menendez, Jose(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)

**Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

T

[SB 96](#)

[Menendez, Jose\(D\)](#)

Relating to the provision of on-campus mental health services by a school district and reimbursement under Medicaid for certain services provided to eligible students.

**Companions:** [HB 1312](#) Moody, Joe(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)  
[SB 2395](#) Menendez, Jose(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)

**Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education

T

[SB 97](#)

[Menendez, Jose\(D\)](#)

Relating to unprofessional conduct by mental health providers who attempt to change the sexual orientation of a child.

**Companions:** [SB 1251](#) Menendez, Jose(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)

**Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

T

[SB 110](#)

[West, Royce\(D\)](#)

Relating to extreme risk protective orders.

**Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

- T** **SB 120** [Johnson, Nathan\(D\)](#) Relating to the creation of a health insurance risk pool for certain health benefit plan enrollees.  
**Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
- T** **SB 129** [Johnson, Nathan\(D\)](#) Relating to certain statutory changes to reflect and address same-sex marriages and parenting relationships and to the removal of provisions regarding the criminality or unacceptability of homosexual conduct.  
**Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs
- T** **SB 147** [Powell, Beverly\(D\)](#) Relating to the maternal mental health peer support pilot program for perinatal mood and anxiety disorder.  
**Companions:** [HB 1991](#) Thierry, Shawn(D) (Identical)  
3-15-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health  
**Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
- T** **SB 179** [Lucio, Eddie\(D\)](#)  
[Huberty, Dan\(R\)](#) Relating to the use of public school counselors' work time.  
**Companions:** [HB 727](#) Gonzalez, Mary(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)  
[SB 426](#) Lucio, Eddie(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)  
[HB 589](#) Gonzalez, Mary(D) (Identical)  
3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education  
**Last Action:** 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date
- T** **SB 180** [Lucio, Eddie\(D\)](#) Relating to improving training and staff development for primary and secondary educators to enable them to more effectively serve all students.  
**Companions:** [HB 159](#) Gonzalez, Mary(D) (Identical)  
9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date  
**Last Action:** 4-30-21 S Recommended for Local/Uncontested Calendar
- T** **SB 184** [Johnson, Nathan\(D\)](#)  
[Thompson, Senfronia\(D\)](#) Relating to reports on the prevalence of eating disorders and eating disorder-related deaths in this state.  
**Companions:** [HB 551](#) Thompson, Senfronia(D) (Identical)  
5- 3-21 H Recommended for Local and Consent Calendar  
**Last Action:** 6- 4-21 G Earliest effective date



- T ⌵ [SB 190](#) [Hughes, Bryan\(R\)](#) Relating to the procedures and grounds for terminating the parent-child relationship, for taking possession of a child, and for certain hearings in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship.
- Companions:** [HB 567](#) Frank, James(R) (Identical)  
 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date
- Last Action:** 4- 6-21 S Committee action pending Senate State Affairs
- T ⌵ [SB 207](#) [Schwertner, Charles\(R\)](#) [Bonnen, Greg\(R\)](#) Relating to recovery of medical or health care expenses in civil actions.
- Companions:** [HB 1617](#) Bonnen, Greg(R) (Identical)  
 4- 6-21 H Committee action pending House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence
- Last Action:** 5-13-21 H Reported favorably from committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence
- T ⌵ [SB 213](#) [Zaffirini, Judith\(D\)](#) Relating to certain notice requirements and filing requirements in court proceedings involving persons with mental illness.
- Companions:** [HB 2936](#) Hinojosa, Gina(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)  
[SB 395](#) Zaffirini, Judith(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)  
[HB 3469](#) Hinojosa, Gina(D) (Identical)  
 5-26-21 S Withdrawn from the Local Calendar
- Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
- T ⌵ [SB 228](#) [Blanco, Cesar \(F\)\(D\)](#) Relating to the reimbursement and payment of claims by certain health benefit plan issuers for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services.
- Companions:** [HB 515](#) Oliverson, Tom(R) (Identical)  
 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance  
[HB 522](#) Johnson, Julie(D) (Identical)  
 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance  
[HB 980](#) Fierro, Art(D) (Identical)  
 5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar
- Last Action:** 3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
- T ⌵ [SB 233](#) [Whitmire, John\(D\)](#) Relating to the prohibition of certain discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.
- Companions:** [HB 188](#) Bernal, Diego(D) (Identical)  
 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House State Affairs

		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs
Ⓣ	SB 245	<a href="#">Schwertner, Charles(R)</a>	Relating to the adequacy and effectiveness of managed care plan networks.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 1509</a> Schwertner, Charles(R) (Refiled from 86R Session)
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
Ⓣ	SB 253	<a href="#">Menendez, Jose(D)</a>	Relating to social work services in public schools.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 28</a> Neave, Victoria(D) (Identical) 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education
			<a href="#">HB 226</a> Bernal, Diego(D) (Identical) 2-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education
Ⓣ	SB 261	<a href="#">Menendez, Jose(D)</a>	Relating to the repeal of statutes regarding the criminality or unacceptability of homosexual conduct and to the recognition of certain same-sex relationship statuses.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 3-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs
Ⓣ	SB 279	<a href="#">Hinojosa, Chuy(D)</a> <a href="#">Bucy, John(D)</a>	Relating to the inclusion of suicide prevention information on certain student identification cards issued by a public school or public institution of higher education.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	6-14-21 G Earliest effective date
Ⓣ	SB 325	<a href="#">West, Royce(D)</a>	Relating to providing mental health services and mental health education to public school students at school-based health centers.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 1114</a> Thierry, Shawn(D) (Identical) 3-25-21 H Reported favorably from committee on House Public Education
		<b>Last Action:</b>	5- 6-21 S Placed on the Senate Calendar for
Ⓣ	SB 412	<a href="#">Buckingham, Dawn(R)</a>	Relating to telemedicine, telehealth, and technology-related health care services.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 4</a> Price, Four(R) (Identical) 6-15-21 G Earliest effective date
			<a href="#">HB 974</a> Price, Four(R) (Identical) 3- 1-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-23-21 S Committee action pending Senate Health and Human Services




<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB 427</a> <a href="#">Miles, Borris(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to preliminary examination periods for mental health protective custody.</p> <p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 3681</a> Coleman, Garnet(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)  <a href="#">SB 2269</a> Miles, Borris(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 3- 9-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB 431</a> <a href="#">Hinojosa, Chuy(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to claims processes and reimbursement for, and overpayment recoupment processes imposed on, health care providers under Medicaid.</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 3- 9-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB 434</a> <a href="#">Blanco, Cesar (F)(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the provision and delivery of certain health, mental health, and educational services in this state, including the delivery of those services using telecommunications or information technology.</p> <p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 1990</a> Thierry, Shawn(D) (Identical)  3-15-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 3- 9-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB 454</a> <a href="#">Kolkhorst, Lois(R)</a>  <a href="#">Lambert, Stan(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to mental health services development plans as updated by local mental health authority groups.</p> <p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 1841</a> Lambert, Stan(R) (Identical)  3-11-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 6- 4-21 G Earliest effective date</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB 458</a> <a href="#">Lucio, Eddie(D)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact.</p> <p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 1903</a> Walle, Armando(D) (Identical)  5- 4-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Health and Human Services</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 3- 9-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB 488</a> <a href="#">Perry, Charles(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the practice of dentistry and the provision of teledentistry dental services.</p> <p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 2056</a> Klick, Stephanie(R) (Identical)  9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date</p> <p><b>Last Action:</b> 3- 9-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services</p>
<p><b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB 517</a> <a href="#">Huffman, Joan(R)</a></p>	<p>Relating to the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.</p> <p><b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 1616</a> Bonnen, Greg(R) (Identical)</p>

			9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3- 9-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services	
Ⓣ	SB 539	<a href="#">Blanco, Cesar (F)(D)</a>	Relating to a study on employing mental health professionals or mental health response teams to assist when responding to a behavioral health-related emergency call.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 1050</a> Romero, Ramon(D) (Identical)	3- 4-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services	
Ⓣ	SB 557	<a href="#">Johnson, Nathan(D)</a>	Relating to the licensing and regulation of genetic counselors.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 2053</a> Klick, Stephanie(R) (Identical)	5- 6-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Business and Commerce
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce	
Ⓣ	SB 575	<a href="#">Hinojosa, Chuy(D)</a>	Relating to the Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment Assistance Program.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 358</a> Hinojosa, Chuy(D) (Refiled from 86R Session)	
		<a href="#">HB 1559</a> Howard, Donna(D) (Identical)	3- 8-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Higher Education
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Higher Education	
Ⓣ	SB 654	<a href="#">Bettencourt, Paul(R)</a>	Relating to protecting the right to free exercise of religion and ensuring access to volunteer and faith-based chaplains and chaplaincy services for inmates.
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Criminal Justice	
Ⓣ	SB 672	<a href="#">Buckingham, Dawn(R)</a> <a href="#">Bonnen, Greg(R)</a>	Relating to Medicaid coverage of certain collaborative care management services.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 2834</a> Bonnen, Greg(R) (Identical)	4-20-21 H Committee action pending House Human Services
	<b>Last Action:</b>	9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date	
Ⓣ	SB 738	<a href="#">Birdwell, Brian(R)</a>	Relating to the right of recusal from the performance of certain marriage ceremonies.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">SB 1009</a> Birdwell, Brian(R) (Refiled from 86R Session)	

		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs
Ⓣ	SB 802	<a href="#">Paxton, Angela(R)</a> <a href="#">Leach, Jeff(R)</a>	Relating to a required resource access assistance offer before an abortion is performed.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 2313</a> Leach, Jeff(R) (Identical) 5-11-21 H Reported from committee as substituted House Public Health
		<b>Last Action:</b>	5-25-21 H Set on the House Calendar
Ⓣ	SB 870	<a href="#">Blanco, Cesar (F)(D)</a>	Relating to the composition and duties of the Public Health Funding and Policy Committee.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 1453</a> Dominguez, Alex(D) (Identical) 3- 5-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
Ⓣ	SB 909	<a href="#">Powell, Beverly(D)</a>	Relating to the provision of counseling services by certain providers under Medicaid and reimbursement for those services.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 706</a> Moody, Joe(D) (Identical) 4-20-21 H Committee action pending House Human Services
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
Ⓣ	SB 915	<a href="#">Hancock, Kelly(R)</a>	Relating to the licensing and authority of advanced practice registered nurses.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 2029</a> Klick, Stephanie(R) (Identical) 3-24-21 H Committee action pending House Public Health
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
Ⓣ	SB 920	<a href="#">Powell, Beverly(D)</a>	Relating to data collection by and consultation with the Collaborative Task Force on Public School Mental Health Services regarding the task force's duties and requiring the Texas Education Agency to report on mental health se
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 2287</a> Thompson, Senfronia(D) (Identical) 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education
Ⓣ	SB 968	<a href="#">Kolkhorst, Lois(R)</a> <a href="#">Klick, Stephanie(R)</a>	Relating to public health disaster and public health emergency preparedness and response.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	6-16-21 G Earliest effective date

T	SB 980	<a href="#">Powell, Beverly(D)</a>	Relating to a suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention program for certain public elementary school campuses.
<b>Companions:</b>			<a href="#">HB 2954</a> Thompson, Senfronia(D) (Identical) 5-25-21 S Reported from committee as substituted Senate Education
<b>Last Action:</b>			4-20-21 S Committee action pending Senate Education
T	SB 992	<a href="#">Hancock, Kelly(R)</a>	Relating to the provision of telehealth services by health professionals located outside of this state.
<b>Companions:</b>			<a href="#">HB 3499</a> Frank, James(R) (Identical) 3-22-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
<b>Last Action:</b>			3-30-21 S Committee action pending Senate Business and Commerce
T	SB 1024	<a href="#">Lucio, Eddie(D)</a>	Relating to the eligibility of social workers for the Homes for Texas Heroes home loan program.
<b>Companions:</b>			<a href="#">HB 2670</a> Guillen, Ryan(R) (Identical) 5-14-21 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate Local Government
<b>Last Action:</b>			3-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Local Government
T	SB 1140	<a href="#">Zaffirini, Judith(D)</a>	Relating to the regulation of child-care facilities and registered family homes providing services to children with disabilities, behavioral issues, or special needs.
<b>Last Action:</b>			3-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
T	SB 1143	<a href="#">Zaffirini, Judith(D)</a>	Relating to an exemption from civil liability for certain professionals for the disclosure of certain mental health information.
<b>Companions:</b>			<a href="#">HB 549</a> Thompson, Senfronia(D) (Identical) 9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date
<b>Last Action:</b>			3-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
T	SB 1173	<a href="#">Hancock, Kelly(R)</a> <a href="#">Schaefer, Matt(R)</a>	Relating to the regulation of abortion, including information regarding perinatal palliative care and prohibiting discriminatory abortions.
<b>Companions:</b>			<a href="#">HB 3218</a> Schaefer, Matt(R) (Identical) 5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar
<b>Last Action:</b>			4-28-21 H Reported favorably from committee on House Public Health
T	SB 1267	<a href="#">West, Royce(D)</a> <a href="#">Lozano, Jose(R)</a>	Relating to continuing education and training requirements for educators and other school district personnel.

	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 3804</a> Lozano, Jose(R) (Identical) 4- 6-21 H Committee action pending House Public Education
	<b>Last Action:</b>	6-18-21 G Earliest effective date
<b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB</a> <a href="#">1275</a>	<a href="#">West, Royce(D)</a>	Relating to provision of behavioral health services under Medicaid using audio-only technology and to reimbursement for those services.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 3396</a> Meza, Terry(D) (Identical) 3-22-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
<b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB</a> <a href="#">1452</a>	<a href="#">Alvarado, Carol(D)</a>	Relating to the licensing and regulation of music therapists.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 2473</a> Johnson, Ann (F)(D) (Identical) 5-13-21 H Set on the House Calendar
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-24-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
<b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB</a> <a href="#">1511</a>	<a href="#">Zaffirini, Judith(D)</a>	Relating to the emergency detention of certain persons with a mental illness or cognitive disability and the scope of an order for psychoactive medication for certain patients.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 3977</a> Moody, Joe(D) (Identical) 3-29-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-24-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs
<b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB</a> <a href="#">1596</a>	<a href="#">Lucio, Eddie(D)</a>	Relating to the membership of a school district's threat assessment and safe and supportive school team and committee and the school safety allotment under the public school finance system.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 2010</a> Talarico, James(D) (Identical) 3-15-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Education
	<b>Last Action:</b>	3-24-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education
<b>T</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">SB</a> <a href="#">1646</a>	<a href="#">Perry, Charles(R)</a>	Relating to the protection of children, including the definition of child abuse and the prosecution of the criminal offense of abandoning or endangering a child.
	<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 4014</a> Hefner, Cole(R) (Identical) 3-29-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health

		<b>Last Action:</b>	5- 3-21 H Referred to House Committee on House Public Health
<b>T</b> 	<b>SB</b> <u>1827</u>	<a href="#">Huffman, Joan(R)</a> <a href="#">Holland, Justin(R)</a>	Relating to the creation of the opioid abatement account.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 4284</a> Holland, Justin(R) (Identical) 5- 4-21 H Committee action pending House Appropriations
		<b>Last Action:</b>	6-16-21 G Earliest effective date
<b>T</b> 	<b>SB</b> <u>2016</u>	<a href="#">Johnson, Nathan(D)</a> <a href="#">Paul, Dennis(R)</a>	Relating to the applicability of certain provisions mandating the provision by certain health benefit plans of health benefits requiring cost defrayal by this state.
		<b>Last Action:</b>	9- 1-21 G Earliest effective date
<b>T</b> 	<b>SB</b> <u>2126</u>	<a href="#">Blanco, Cesar (F)(D)</a>	Relating to the inclusion of adults with mental illness in reduced-fare programs of public transportation providers.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HB 3914</a> Ortega, Lina(D) (Identical) 5- 4-21 H Recommended for Local and Consent Calendar
		<b>Last Action:</b>	3-31-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Transportation
<b>T</b> 	<b>SJR 27</b>	<a href="#">Hancock, Kelly(R)</a> <a href="#">Leach, Jeff(R)</a>	Proposing a constitutional amendment to prohibit this state or a political subdivision of this state from prohibiting or limiting a religious service conducted by a religious organization.
		<b>Companions:</b>	<a href="#">HJR 72</a> Leach, Jeff(R) (Identical) 5-11-21 H Laid on the table - subject to call - see SJR 27
		<b>Last Action:</b>	11- 2-21 G Election date

<b>Total Bills:</b>	<b>Track</b> 171
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