



Regulatory Tracking

The passing of legislation is not the end of the process when it comes to making changes to our rules and systems. Signed legislation typically has a time period in which the implementation of the legislation required. During this time period, stakeholders are able to provide input on how these new laws should be implemented. TACHC takes an active role in this process by reviewing draft rule postings, attending hearings, meeting with responsible parties, and providing comments.

While TACHC is tracking the implementation of all bills identified in the TACHC 87th Legislative Summary, below are updates on some of the most important bills to health centers.

HB 4 – Making Permanent COVID Telemedicine Flexibilities

Key Provisions: Requires HHSC to create a permanent benefit for audio-only behavioral health services to be provided in Medicaid, CHIP, and other public benefit programs beyond the end of the PHE. It also allows HHSC to reimburse providers for audio-only services outside behavioral health if determined to be cost and clinically effective. Allows Medicaid MCOs to reimburse providers for home telemonitoring services provided to patients and in circumstances other than those in specified in current law.

HB 133 – Post-Partum Medicaid Coverage Extension

Key Provisions: Extends Medicaid coverage for new mothers from 60 days to six months. Moves HTW and HTW Plus into managed care.

HB 2056 – Teledentistry

Key Provisions: Establishes teledentistry in Texas and allows dental providers to render services and receive reimbursement in Medicaid, CHIP, and private insurance products. The bill is effective September 1, 2021 with coverage of teledentistry services beginning January 1, 2022.

TACHC Update: