



EL PASO COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

87TH Texas Legislative Session
LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



HOSPITAL DISTRICT FINANCING

- Support the continued state funding of health and human services programs, including Medicaid reimbursement rates.
- Protect local financing solutions that ensure Texas has the resources to fund Medicaid supplemental/waiver payments, like:
 - The Special Taxing Unit exemption for Hospital Districts at the current eight percent rollback rate;
 - Local provider participation funds (LPPF);
 - Hospital District's current bond authority.
- Maintain dedicated funding for trauma and emergency infrastructure.
- Support the 1115 Waiver to maintain critical health care programs.
- Establish a mechanism to cover uncompensated care costs for patients injured in a mass shooting.
- Ensure proportional funding among providers that may be allocated by the state to cover COVID-19 expenditures.

HEALTH CARE COVERAGE & ACCESS

- Preserve the ability of hospital district health plans to participate in Medicaid managed care and access to HMO contracts.
- Maintain current flexibilities for virtual visits, including audio-only, telehealth, and telemedicine.
- Increase coverage options that reduce the number of uninsured and underinsured Texas adults.
- Support 12-month continuous eligibility and auto enrollment for children in Medicaid and other state programs, while preserving investments made in CHIP and CHIP Perinatal.

HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE & OPERATIONS

- Maintain Medicaid Graduate Medical Education (GME) payments and support increased GME funding for residencies.
- Expand the health care workforce through loan repayment programs and other incentives.
- Maintain the ability of hospital districts to educate and advocate for our health systems and communities.
- Expand existing statutory authority to include the El Paso County Hospital District in the ability to engage a broker in the lease or sale of property owned by the hospital district.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Support policies and funding to enhance inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services in the West Texas region

POISON CONTROL

- Fully fund Texas' Poison Control Program as requested by the Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) in its Legislative Appropriations Request.

For additional information, please contact:

Ruben Vogt

Director of Government Relations

915-238-3814 or ruben.vogt@umcelpaso.org

Elisa Hernández

Senior Advisor for Government Relations

915-235-6403 or Elisa.hernandez@umcelpaso.org

