

DFW-APIC Government Affairs Committee (GAC) – 81st Texas Legislative Session

January 2011

NATIONAL ISSUE

- REMINDER: Read your weekly APIC E-News for updates on federal issues
- NOTE: TJC has an open comment period on two proposed new NPSG's for 2012. The public comment period expires 01/27/11. Comments can be submitted on-line (see your 12/08/10 APIC E-news for more details):
http://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/field_reviews.aspx?StandardsFieldReviewId=2FtodcNVUorn6bYyxj%2fvccb1WgDvX7Wwr5Rd3r%2ftPbU%3d NOTE: This involves CA-UTI's and VAP

TEXAS ISSUES

TEXAS REGISTER (<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml>)

- The **proposed** HAI Reporting Rules (CHAPTER 200. HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS SUBCHAPTER A. CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES **25 TAC §§200.1 -200.10**) were published in the 10/22/10 Texas Register. Public comment closed 11/20/10 and these have not been adopted as of 12/31/10. The special report issued to our membership is still available for review on our website (see November 2010 GAC Report).
- The **proposed** rules for first responder MRSA inclusion by hospitals was published 12/17/10: TITLE 25. HEALTH SERVICES; PART 1. DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES; CHAPTER 97. COMMUNICABLE DISEASES; SUBCHAPTER A. CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES; §97.11. Public comment is open until 01/15/11.
- The **adopted** rules were published for Ambulatory Surgical Centers (operating requirements) on 11/19/10: TAC 25, Part I, Chapter 135.

TEXAS HAI/PAE REPORTING RESOURCES

Be sure and check the websites below for updated information on facility requirements at least monthly. Have you signed up for your Texas HAI Reporting Seminar (Mandatory)?

http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/health/infection_control/HAI/ -- Texas HAI Homepage

http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/health/infection_control/HAI/Reporting/ -- Reporting

TEXAS 82nd LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- As of 12/31/10 there are x5 bills filed with the word “Infection” and x15 bills filed with the word “Disease” – And the session isn’t officially open yet (!). Of these 20 bills we’ve reviewed we are tracking three (03) as listed below. These bills have the potential to impact the practice of infection prevention and control at the healthcare facility level and/or immunization system.
- Status of bills with infection control content under “Last Activity” as of 12/31/10.

Texas Bills Filed with Infection Control Content*

Bill Name	Last Activity	Summary of Content
SB 64 (Zaffirini)	Filed 11/08/10	Relating to the right of an employee who is a victim of a crime to time off from work to attend court proceedings related to that crime. (employee health implications).
HB 117 (McClendon)	Filed 11/08/10	Relating to disease control outreach programs to reduce the risk of certain communicable diseases. (includes needle exchange program).
SB 241 (Ellis)	Filed 12/01/10	Relating to HIV and AIDS tests and to health benefit plan coverage of HIV and AIDS tests. (an “opting out” only for HIV testing in healthcare facilities?).

* Go to www.capitol.state.tx.us/ to view content of bills filed

^ Scheduled for Public Hearing

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2011 APIC-DFW Committee:

Chair: Michelle Macaluso; Brian Blauser; Brenda Helms; Patti Grant; Stephanie Kreiling;
Jan Park; Chris Sohn