

DFW-APIC Government Affairs Committee (GAC) – 82nd Texas Legislative Session

March 2011

NATIONAL ISSUE

- REMINDER: Read your weekly APIC E-News for updates on federal issues

TEXAS ISSUES

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

- The 12/17/10 proposed rules for the Texas MRSA Pilot Reporting program have been **adopted** as of 2/25/11: CHAPTER 97. COMMUNICABLE DISEASES SUBCHAPTER A. CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES 25 TAC §97.11, concerning notification of emergency medical personnel and others of possible exposure to MRSA, and §97.14, concerning a program for reporting MRSA, a bacteria primarily associated with skin and soft tissue infections.

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 2/28/11 there are x18 bills filed with the word “Infection” and x70 bills filed with the word “Disease.” Of these 88 bills we’ve reviewed we are tracking nine (09) 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 2/28/11.

Texas Bills Filed with Infection Control Content*

Bill Name	Last Activity	Summary of Content
SB 64 (Zaffirini)	Filed 11/08/10; Considered in public hearing, testimony taken and left pending in committee 2/22/11	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; Referred to Public Health 2/11/11	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; Referred to Health & Human Services 1/31/11	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?). NOTE: Companion Bill HB 786
HB 614 (Hopson)	Filed 1/12/11; Referred to Public Health 2/18/11	Relating to allowing health care providers to provide services across state lines in catastrophic circumstances.
HB 786 (Davis)	Filed 1/21/11; Referred to Insurance 2/23/11	Relating to HIV and AIDS tests and to health benefit plan coverage of HIV and AIDS tests.
SB 8 (Nelson)	Filed 2/16/11; Referred to Health & Human Services 2/17/11	Relating to improving the quality and efficiency of health care, including reporting of HAIs
SB 620 (Nelson)	Filed 2/11/11; Referred to Health & Human Services 2/17/11	Relating to the reporting of health care-associated infections and preventable adverse events (allows for use of NHSN).
SB 671 (Gallegos)	Filed 2/14/11; Referred to State Affairs 2/23/11	Relating to the creation of a state occupational health and safety plan (Texas OSHA).
HB 1657 (Davis)	Filed 2/22/11	Relating to reporting of deaths associated with reportable HAIs.

* 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; Co-Chair: Jan Park; Brian Blausler; Brenda Helms; Patti Grant; Stephanie Kreiling; Chris Sohn