**From:** Texas Medical Association [mailto:tmainfo@texmed.org]
**Sent:** Friday, November 01, 2013 3:39 PM
**To:** Debra Heater
**Subject:** TMA Action: Judge Upholds Physicians' Judgment

The VA's Bad Idea

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| Dear Debra Heater:Please enjoy this complimentary edition of TMA's semimonthly e-ewsletter. Action presents timely information about legal, economic, regulatory, and legislative affairs that you can find nowhere else. And, it is available only to Texas Medical Association members.Action is just one example of TMA's benefits and services designed to help you, your patients, and your practice – there are many more.**Try TMA Now and Get Two Months Free!**Apply for 2014 membership with the Texas Medical Association and **receive the remainder of 2013 free.** That's 14 months for the price of 12! **Use Resource Code: ACTION13.**Simply click [here](http://TXMA.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzY0MTQ5JnA9MSZ1PTc3NjgwNjIzMyZsaT0xNDkwMzg3NQ/index.html) (use resource code: **ACTION13**) to apply online and to learn more about all the [TMA benefits and services available to you](http://TXMA.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzY0MTQ5JnA9MSZ1PTc3NjgwNjIzMyZsaT0xNDkwMzg3Nw/index.html). Questions? Contact the TMA Knowledge Center by telephone at (800) 880-7955 or by e-mail at TMA Knowledge Center.I look forward to working together with you to ensure that physician practices are viable and strong, and our collective voice advocates for a practice environment that protects the patient-physician relationship.Sincerely,  Steve Brotherton, MDPresidentTexas Medical Association  |

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| Abortion Ruling Supports Physician Judgment |
| An Austin federal judge blocked enforcement of a provision of the state's new antiabortion law that requires physicians performing abortions to have admitting privileges at a hospital within 30 miles of their facility. On Oct. 28, the day before the law was to take effect, U.S. District Judge Lee Yeakel also upheld a physician's judgment in the use of RU-486 by women seeking an abortion. The state immediately appealed the ruling to the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, and on Oct. 31, the court lifted Judge Yeakel's injunction, allowing the state to enforce the regulations. The legal battle is expected to continue. [More](http://TXMA.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzY0MTQ5JnA9MSZ1PTc3NjgwNjIzMyZsaT0xNDkwMzg3OQ/index.html) |
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| Texan Leads in Pushing Bipartisan Support for SGR Repeal |
| U.S. Rep. Bill Flores (R-Bryan) joined a Democratic congressman in urging House leaders to repeal Medicare's Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula this year. Representative Flores and Rep. Dan Maffei (D-N.Y.) are asking their colleagues to sign on to a bipartisan letter to House Speaker John Boehner and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi. [More](http://TXMA.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzY0MTQ5JnA9MSZ1PTc3NjgwNjIzMyZsaT0xNDkwMzg4MA/index.html) |
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| TMA Opposes VA's APRN Proposal |
| It's a bad idea. That's the gist of what TMA, the American Medical Association, and other state medical societies say in a letter to Robert Petzel, MD, undersecretary for health in the Department of Veterans Affairs about the proposal in the Veterans Health Administration Nursing Handbook to designate advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) as independent providers and to allow them to practice without physician supervision regardless of individual state regulations. [More](http://TXMA.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzY0MTQ5JnA9MSZ1PTc3NjgwNjIzMyZsaT0xNDkwMzg4Mg/index.html) |
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| TMA Answers Your Patients' Insurance Marketplace Questions |
| "Hey, Doc," TMA's multimedia patient education campaign about the Affordable Care Act health insurance marketplace, continues into its third month on video, on the Internet, and in the news media. To keep up with the program or to refer your patients, go to heydoc.texmed.org. [More](http://TXMA.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzY0MTQ5JnA9MSZ1PTc3NjgwNjIzMyZsaT0xNDkwMzg4Mw/index.html) |
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| Walk the Walk |
| Ready to practice what you preach? TMA’s Walk With a Doc program is part of a national grassroots movement devoted to encouraging healthy physical activity. We want to reverse the consequences of a sedentary lifestyle and improve the health and well-being of our country, and we want your help. [More](http://TXMA.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzY0MTQ5JnA9MSZ1PTc3NjgwNjIzMyZsaT0xNDkwMzg4NA/index.html) |
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| Learn About the Blue Advantage HMO Network |
| If you signed a contract with the new Blue Advantage HMO network, you might want to attend a provider orientation session. [More](http://TXMA.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzY0MTQ5JnA9MSZ1PTc3NjgwNjIzMyZsaT0xNDkwMzg4Ng/index.html) |
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| Live From Austin: Medicare 2014 |
| You can go to TMA's Medicare 2014 update at one of 10 seminar locations across the state starting Nov. 5. Or, it can come to you as a live webcast on Nov. 5 from 8:30 am until 12:30 pm CT. [More](http://TXMA.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzY0MTQ5JnA9MSZ1PTc3NjgwNjIzMyZsaT0xNDkwMzg4Nw/index.html) |
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