TMA ADVOCACY

Safeguarding Medicine

2019 TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY

TMA tracked 1,954 medicine-related bills OR 7,851 total bills filed during 2019 session

2,299 emails sent to legislators by TMA members 24% of all bills filed

1,350 First Tuesdays at the Capitol lobby day participants

372 cards dropped with legislators by TMA to support or oppose a bill

51 physician testifiers 139 live and written testimonies
Renewal of the Texas Medical Board (TMB) through 2031
HB 1504

$81 million more for medical schools and graduate medical education
HB 1

More explicit prior authorization procedures, denials, requirements, and reviews
SB 1742

PMP mandates delayed until March 2020 to allow for EHR integration
HB 3284

Timely removal of negative information from a physician’s TMB profile
HB 1504

An increase to age 21 to buy tobacco or vaping products
SB 21

Mandatory network adequacy reviews for PPOs and EPOs
HB 3911

20+ dangerous scope of practice bills defeated

New arbitration process for surprise billing disputes
SB 1264

Expedited licensing process for out-of-state physicians
HB 1504

Extension of the Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas
HB 39

$150 million for mental health services and psychiatry workforce expansion
HB 1

$68 million more for women’s health programs
HB 1

$7 million to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity
HB 1

$5 million for improved PMP interface and subscriber licenses
SB 500

Texas medicine succeeds when Texas physicians work together. Your membership helps TMA maintain a strong presence in the statehouse and on Capitol Hill. TMA’s work and grassroots advocacy persist as lawmaking, interim hearings, and campaigns continue. Join our advocacy efforts to keep our momentum strong.

- Get to know your local legislators
- Champion medicine’s priorities year-round
- Watch for First Tuesdays in the Districts events in your town
- Learn more about TEXPAC
- Encourage your colleagues to join TMA

texmed.org/Legislature