Texas Health and Human Services Commission e-Health Advisory Committee

Background:

The Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) Electronic Health Advisory Committee's purpose is to advise the Executive Commissioner and Health and Human Services system agencies (HHS agencies) on strategic planning, policy, rules, and services related to the use of health information technology, health information exchange systems, telemedicine, telehealth, and home telemonitoring services.

The Committee last met on July 17, 2020. At this meeting the Committee discussed:
- Subcommittee reports in preparation for the Committee annual report to the Commissioner with recommendations. Also, the committee voted on the addition of the Behavioral Health Subcommittee.
- The telemedicine update included that bills passed in the last legislative session helped to transition virtual care to patients during the pandemic. The telemedicine, telehealth, and telemonitoring subcommittee with complete a survey of health information technology usage during COVID.
- Discussion of the need for a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number to provide the COVID vaccine occurred, a request was made for an expert in NPI numbers to present to the committee at the next meeting if this would be necessary and any processes related to NPI numbers.
- Dialogue occurred about the delivery system reform incentive payment program transition plan, Medicaid technology modernization, health information technology, health information exchange program, federal HIT rules, and Texas Immunization Registry bidirectional data exchange.
- Since this meeting in July, work has been done by the writing team to complete the Annual Report to the Executive Commissioner of HHSC with the recommendations from the Committee. Review of this report is currently occurring and finalization will occur at the December meeting.

The next eHealth Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for December 7th, 2020

Recommendation:

This item is for informational purposes only. No action is required.