



## Texas HIMSS Advocacy Newsletter - January 2022

It is time to return to the State Capital in Austin and educate our Legislators on important initiatives to the Healthcare Community. Mark your calendars for February 7th and 8th!

On **Monday, February 7th** we will meet at **Iron Cactus Downtown for a two-hour reception** to for networking and to prepare for our legislative visits on February 8th. This event is being sponsored by Lonestar Communications, Primex and Centrax.

On **Tuesday, February 8th** we will meet in the **Legislative Conference Center inside the State Capitol** for focused visits with state policymakers and then regroup for an informative Healthcare IT Advocacy Forum. We have several Healthcare Leaders lined up to share and discuss the top priorities and positions of 2022, which are a subset of the HIMSS Advocacy Priorities:

### **Connected Health**

- Policies promoting coverage of information-driven and evidence-based connected health.
  - Clinical expertise used to evaluate the risks and benefits of using connected health services/tools to deliver care.

### **Cybersecurity and Data Privacy**

- Policies must strive for a unified, global approach to health cybersecurity and data privacy that leverages the creation and adoption of voluntary, consensus-based, industry-led guidelines, best practices, methodologies, procedures, and processes for the adoption of voluntary, universal information privacy and security frameworks.
  - These frameworks must include use cases and implementation guidance that are scalable for a wide range of healthcare organizations and inclusive to all care settings.
  - An information-sharing pipeline that allows governments to inform the private sector of cyberthreat intelligence must be created.

### **Interoperability**

- Improving and moving forward to bidirectional, individual access to information, and clearly present this value proposition for all health ecosystem participants related to the collection and exchange of data.
  - Health information and technology tools and data collection standards that improve access to data from disparate sources and ensure data is available to the right person at the right place at the right time across the care continuum.
  - In the U.S., the United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) to expand to include additional data classes that encompass more information streams, including more data focused on SDOH, patient-generated health, wearables, genomics, and healthcare cost and price information.

### **Health Equity**

- Advocate for underserved groups to improve care access and outcomes across the state.

Last year, HIMSS and the health information and technology community highlighted the role of digital health as a bridge to patient wellness by focusing on maternal health, patient identification and safety, telehealth and public health data modernization. This year, we will continue to support those efforts while moving discussions toward the above topics.

Please register for these events now.

**Texas Advocacy Reception at the Iron Cactus**

Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup> ~5:30pm – 7:30 pm

Register [here](#) or by scanning QR code below.



**Texas Advocacy Forum at the State Capitol**

Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> ~8:30am – 1:00 pm

Register [here](#) or by scanning QR code below.



**Your Texas HIMSS Advocacy Committee**

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**Sincerely,**

**YOUR TEXAS HIMSS ADVOCACY COMMITTEE**

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