



Texas HIMSS Advocacy Newsletter - March 2022

We are ready and it is time to return to the State Capital in Austin and educate our Legislators on important initiatives to the Healthcare Community.

On April **4th** we will meet at **Iron Cactus Downtown for a two-hour reception** to meet, greet and prepare for our future legislative visits. Preparations will include how Texas Health Community volunteers can communicate with Legislators and the State Capital protocols including COVID. This event is being sponsored by Lonestar Communications, Primex and Centrax.

On April **5th** we will meet in the **Legislative Conference Center inside the State Capitol** and we have invited Texas state policymakers and will have a very informative Healthcare IT Advocacy Forum. We have very knowledgeable Healthcare Leaders lined up to share and discuss the top priorities and positions of 2022.

April 5th Agenda:

08:30 AM	State of Texas Health Care- Keynote Steve Love
09:15 AM - 10:15 AM	Interoperability Panel – Facilitated by Mary Sirois Panelists: George Gooch, Phil Becket, Shannon Vogel, Dr. Manish Nail
10:15 AM - 10:45 AM	Health Equity and our Opportunities- Keynote Dr. Michael Peterson
11:00 AM - 12:00 AM	Health Equity Pane I – Facilitated by Donna Montgomery Panelists: Mark Steiger, Andrea Daugherty, Sarah Llamas
12:00	Closing Remarks
12:30	Scheduled legislative advocacy visits

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.

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.

Health Equity

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

We want to especially thank our legislators on the following committees who are advocates for healthcare and we have extended an invite for them to attend our forum on April 5th.

House Public Health Committee: Chair Stephanie Klick, Vice Chair R. D. Bobby Guerra, Steve Allison, Liz Campos, Nicole Collier, Jacey Jetton, Tom Oliverson, Four Price, Reggie Smith and Erin Zwiener

Senate Health & Human Services: Chair Lois Kolhorts, Vice Chair Charles Perry, Cesar Blanco, Donna Campbell, Bob Hall, Borris L. Miles, and Kel Seliger

House Select Committee on Health Care Reform: Chair Sam Harless, Vice Chair Toni Rose, Greg Bonnen, John Bucy, Giovanni Capriglione, James Frank, R.D. Bobby Guerra, Stephanie Klick, John Lujan, Tom Oliverson and Armando Walle

If you have not already registered, please do! Attendance is limited and we are reaching capacity.

The Texas Advocacy Reception at the Iron Cactus, Monday, April 4th - 5:30pm – 7:30 pm

[Texas Advocacy Reception | Dallas/Fort Worth-Texas Chapter \(himsschapter.org\)](https://himsschapter.org)

Texas Advocacy Forum at the State Capitol, Tuesday, April 5th 8:00am – 1:00 pm

[Texas Advocacy Forum | Dallas/Fort Worth-Texas Chapter \(himsschapter.org\)](https://himsschapter.org)

All of you who have registered for the Texas Advocacy Forum on April 5th will be receiving a zoom invite on 3/29 at 11:45 am featuring Nora Belcher discussing “How to Advocate as a Texan”. This will prepare us to make the most of this event as well as future Healthcare Advocacy Day. We have plans to schedule the second week of January 2023 to visit with the elected Texas Legislatives at the beginning of the Texas 2023 Legislative Sessions.

Your Texas HIMSS Advocacy Committee

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Sincerely,

YOUR TEXAS HIMSS ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

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