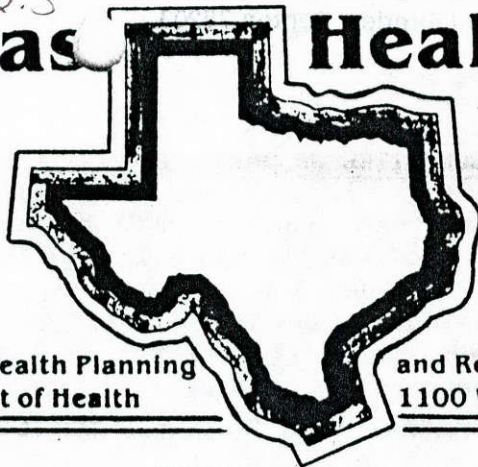


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Texas Health Planning NEWS



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Bureau of State Health Planning
Texas Department of Health

and Resource Development
1100 W. 49th Street, Austin, Texas 78756

PUBLIC HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED
FOR PROPOSED STATE HEALTH PLAN

The 1985 Proposed Texas State Health Plan of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) will undergo public scrutiny during the month of August in 14 regions of the state and at one statewide hearing as part of the federally mandated public hearing process.

Both oral and written comments will be accepted during the hearings, and written comments will also be received by mail no later than August 31, 1984 by the Chair of the SHCC at 1100 W. 49th Street, Austin, Texas 78756-3199. Dates and locations of the hearings include:

- August 9: Alamo Area Council of Governments, 118 Broadway, Suite 400, San Antonio, 4 p.m.-6 p.m.
- August 13: Middle Rio Grande Development Council, First State Bank Building, The McNelly Room, Uvalde, 10 a.m.-noon.
- August 14: North Central Texas Council of Governments, 616 Six Flags Drive, Board Room, 2nd Floor, Arlington, 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
- August 14: Brazos Valley Development Council, 3006 East 29th Street, Conference Room, Bryan, 7 p.m.
- August 16: West Central Texas Council of Governments, 1025 East North 10th Street, Conference Room, Abilene, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.
- August 17: Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, Brier Croft Savings Building, 1st Floor Conference Room, 415 West 8th Street, Amarillo, 1:30 p.m.
- August 21: Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, Harlingen City Hall, Town Hall Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, 118 East Tyler, Harlingen, 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
- August 22: West Texas Council of Governments, El Paso City Hall, 8th Floor Conference Room, Two Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
- August 22: South Plains Association of Governments, Family Park Shopping Center, 3424 Avenue H, Lubbock, 2 p.m.
- August 23: Capital Area Planning Council, Stokes/Sercy Building, Suite 100, 2520 South IH-35, Austin, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.
- August 24: Houston-Galveston Area Council, 3555 Timmons Lane, 4th Floor Conference Room, Houston, 10 a.m.
- August 28: Nortex Regional Planning Commission, 2101 Kemp Street, Conference Room, Wichita Falls, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.
- August 29: Central Texas Council of Governments, 302 East Central Avenue, Belton, 9 a.m.
- August 30: Deep East Texas Council of Governments, Angelina County Courthouse, Commissioners' Court Meeting Room, Lufkin, 10 a.m.-noon.
- August 31: Texas Department of Health, Room G-209, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, 10 a.m.

A copy of the proposed plan is available for review at the offices of the state's 24 Councils of Government and at the Bureau of State Health Planning and Resource Development, Texas Department of Health, 1100 W. 49th Street, Austin, Texas 78756-3199, (512) 458-7261.

TEXAS HEALTH DATA COOPERATIVE MEETS
TO REVIEW HOSPITAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Members of the Texas Health Data Cooperative, somewhat inactive since the phase-out of the state's 12 Health Systems Agencies, met July 31, 1984 at the Texas Department of Health in Austin to consider the Department's 1984 Hospital Data Questionnaire. According to the Texas Department of Health Data Collection Rules, data collection instruments such as the questionnaire are to be reviewed by the Cooperative.

About 20 entity representatives attended the meeting and comments were received in the areas of diabetes, physical therapy and podiatry.

SHCC ESTABLISHES
COMMITTEE ON NMR

The Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) has established a new committee to develop guidelines for the introduction of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) units in Texas. The NMR Advisory Committee, the result of a recommendation by the Resource Development and Implementation Committee (RDIC) of the SHCC, is a 12-member group chaired by Irwin R. Salmanson of Austin, SHCC parliamentarian and a health consumer of that group. Other representation includes two radiologists, one physicist, one radiologic technician, one economist, one representative each from the Texas Health Facilities Commission, the Texas Medical Association and the Texas Hospital Association, and three other SHCC members.

In a letter to Louis E. Gibson, M.D., SHCC Chair, Jose L. Gonzales, Chair of the RDIC, said "due to the uncertain need, significant costs and probable obsolescence of . . . (NMR) units, the . . . Committee requests that a special advisory committee on NMR be established under the SHCC."

Gonzales continued, "the special committee's charge (will) be to develop guidelines for the introduction and use of NMR (units) into Texas, addressing availability, accessibility, quality, continuity and cost of care, as well as data collection requirements."

The NMR unit, considered by many to be the most significant diagnostic invention since x-ray, produces pictures of the body's interior and chemical analyses of tissues which, authorities say, are capable of revealing the extent of a cancer spread, defects within the heart's chamber, nerve degeneration from multiple sclerosis, areas of the brain damaged by stroke, painful bulges of the backbone's disks and a host of other problems.

HEALTH PLANNING NEWS
NOTES FIRST BIRTHDAY

The Texas Health Planning News is one year old with this issue. The News, published aperiodically by the Bureau of State Health Planning and Resource Development, Texas Department of Health, strives to promote the recommendations of the State Health Plan, describe major health status and system problems and trends, and highlight those health planning data available through the Bureau and the process by which data users may obtain various data elements.

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