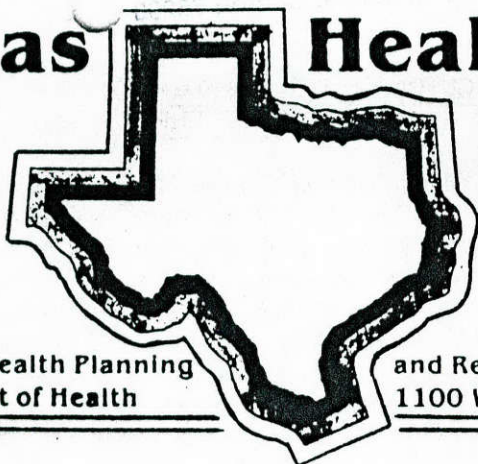


# Texas Health Planning NEWS



JANUARY 1985  
Vol. 3 No. 1

Bureau of State Health Planning  
Texas Department of Health

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

GOVERNOR NAMES NEW SHCC:  
DR. ZETZMAN TABBED AS CHAIR

A new Texas Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) has been appointed by Governor Mark White and will undergo a comprehensive orientation in Austin on Wednesday, January 30. The briefing session will be conducted during the day preceding the registration that evening for the Texas Conference on Health Care Costs (see related story, this page). The SHCC meeting will resume on Friday, February 1.

Named as chair of the SHCC is Marion R. Zetzman, M.P.H., Dr.Ph., professor of community medicine and special assistant to the president of the University of Texas Health Science Center, Dallas. Dr. Zetzman will serve as chair at the pleasure of the Governor. His term will expire October 21, 1986.

Two members of the preceding SHCC, Jose L. Gonzalez of Laredo and Lynda Calcote of Abilene, were reappointed. Their terms expire October 21, 1985.

Other new members include Edward A. R. Lord, Jr., M.D., Jarmese Morris, Father Robert J. Brooks, James Easter and Shirley Price, all of Houston; Max Brown of Dallas; Lynda Hill of Ft. Worth; Betsy Attel and Margarethe M. T. Rosales, both of El Paso; the Honorable Lester Cranek, Colorado County Judge of Columbus; Dolores Lawless of Beaumont; Richard Barajas of Ft. Stockton; Gilbert Ochoa and State Representative Frank Madla, both of San Antonio; and James Grey and Jack Campbell, both of Austin. The terms of Attel, Brown, Barajas, Brooks, Cranek, Easter and Grey will expire October 21, 1985; those of Lord, Morris, Ochoa, Campbell, Hill, Lawless, Madla, Price and Rosales will expire October 21, 1986.

The SHCC, representing both consumers and providers of health care services, is mandated by the National Health Planning and Resources Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-641) and its amendments to produce a state health plan at least every three years. The SHCC will recommend ways to address various issues, including health care cost containment and access to health care.

CONFERENCE WILL FEATURE  
HEALTH CARE COST ISSUES

The Texas Conference on Health Care Costs will be held Wednesday evening and Thursday, January 30-31, at the Joe C. Thompson Conference Center in Austin to provide a forum for state legislators and other policymakers to discuss health care cost issues and cost containment measures. Some 200 persons are expected to participate.

Registration for the event, sponsored by the Texas Department of Health, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at Austin, will get underway at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 30. Participating in the welcome and introduction will be the Honorable Max Sherman, dean of the LBJ School of Public Affairs; Frank L. Moore, Ph.D., assistant dean of the School of Public Health, UTHSC in Houston; and Robert Bernstein, M.D., commissioner of health, Austin. Governor Mark White will deliver the keynote address.

On Thursday, January 31, Lieutenant Governor William P. Hobby will deliver the introductory remarks at 8:30 a.m. He will be joined in the delivery by House Speaker Gib Lewis.

Topics to be considered during the four sessions of the conference include an update on cost trends and causes, federal and state efforts to contain costs and health cost issues in Texas. The Thursday luncheon address will feature the role of HMOs and other alternative delivery systems. The address will be presented by Paul Lairson, M.D., physician representative for the Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program.

Other conference participants will include Ron Anderson, M.D., chairman of the Texas Board of Health; Charles E. Begley, Ph.D., UTSPH; Coyle C. Kelly, Texas Department of Health; David Warner, Ph.D., LBJ School of Public Affairs; and Thomas Colvin, Ph.D., National Conference of State Legislatures, Washington, D.C.

Also, Richard Merritt, Ph.D., George Washington University; James B. Simpson, Ph.D., Western Center for Health Planning; O. Edwin McClusky, M.D., Tyler; and Alfred McAlister, Ph.D., UTSPH.

A legislative panel will respond to the Thursday afternoon presentations and will consist of Senators Chet Brooks and Chet Edwards, and Representatives Erwin Barton and Bruce Gibson. The conference will conclude with a summary at 4:30 p.m.

MRI GUIDANCE DEVELOPED;  
TO BE REVISION TO '85 SHP

The Magnetic Resonance Imaging Advisory Committee (MRIAC) to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) has completed its assigned task to develop guidelines for the introduction and use of MRI devices in Texas by adopting a resolution forwarding the guidelines to the SHCC for its adoption. If adopted, the guidelines will undergo a 30-day review and a public hearing, before becoming a part of the 1985 State Health Plan.

The ad hoc group took three meetings before the guidelines -- preferably called "guidance" -- were acceptable. The first draft was considered to be too restrictive on inpatient facilities and too lengthy. The committee instructed staff to make the guidance more general and more equitable to both inpatient and outpatient facilities desiring to obtain MRI devices.

The 12-member MRIAC, chaired by Irwin R. Salmanson of Austin, is composed of two radiologists, one physicist, one radiological technician, one economist, one representative each from the Texas Medical Association, Texas Hospital Association and the Texas Health Facilities Commission and four members of the former SHCC.

The MRI 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.

RESPONSE NEEDED

The State Appropriations Act requires all state newsletters and other periodicals to present a notice in three consecutive issues indicating that anyone desiring to continue to receive the publication so indicate in writing. The agency will furnish future publications of the News only to those persons requesting it. This does not apply to Texas Department of Health employees who receive their issues through bulk shipments and mailings. To continue on the mailing list please fill out the address blank below, properly sign and date it, and return it to:

Texas Health Planning News  
Bureau of State Health Planning  
and Resource Development  
Texas Department of Health  
1100 West 49th Street  
Austin, Texas 78756-3199

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Texas Health Planning News is published aperiodically by the Bureau of State Health Planning and Resource Development, Texas Department of Health, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, Texas 78756-3199 to promote the recommendations of the State Health Plan, and summarize health planning data available through the Bureau. Material contained herein is published by the Texas Department of Health under the authority of Article 4418h (H.B. 2164) VTCS, and is financed by public funds appropriated by the Texas Legislature and from the Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, Grant No. 06-P-000207-09. This agency conforms to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination on account of race, color, or national origin, and other provisions relating to equal employment opportunities, and nondiscrimination on the basis of sex and handicaps.

Mike Ezzell, Chief (512) 458-7261

Don R. Kretsinger, Staff (512) 458-7261

Bureau of State Health Planning  
and Resource Development  
Texas Department of Health  
1100 West 49th Street  
Austin, Texas 78756-3199