

# TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH COALITION

## TPHC Priorities and the 84th Texas Legislature

[Healthy Eating and Physical Activity](#) • [Vaccinations](#) • [Cancer](#)  
[Tobacco](#) • [Preventable-Injury](#)

### Get Texas Moving and Eating Healthy

Priorities	Related Bills*	Last Action
Preserve and support expanded funding for chronic disease prevention.	<b>HB 1 and SB 2:</b> General appropriations	★ <b>HB 1</b> - Adopted, 5/29.
Support recommendations to improve the quality and/or amount of health education, nutrition, physical education, and physical activity in schools and early childhood centers.	<b>HB 440 Gonzales:</b> Adapting school physical education curriculum to accommodate the needs of students with mental disabilities.  <b>HB 2804 Aycock:</b> Relating to evaluation of public school performance (amended to include elimination of Fitnessgram from HB 1227)	★ <b>HB 440</b> - Signed by the Governor, 5/23, effective immediately.  ★ <b>HB 2804</b> - Bill amended by Senate Education to preserve Fitnessgram-related language; sent to Governor, 6/1.
Support policies that address healthy environments and obesity as they relate to physical activity and increasing access to affordable and healthy foods.	<b>HB 493 Canales:</b> Prohibiting the purchase of energy drinks under the supplemental nutrition assistance program.  <b>HB 1202 Munoz, Jr.:</b> Creation of the community nutrition program policy advisory council.  <b>HB 1485 Rodriguez:</b> Texas grocery access investment fund program.  <b>HB 1616 Rodriguez:</b> Pilot program for the purchase of produce at farmers markets under certain nutritional assistance programs.	<b>HB 493</b> - Left pending in House Human Services, 3/9.  <b>HB 1202</b> - Reported by House Agriculture and Livestock, sent to Calendars, 5/12.  <b>HB 1485</b> - Amended on 2nd reading by House but failed to pass on 3rd reading, 5/15.  <b>HB 1616</b> - Left pending in House Agriculture and Livestock, 4/15
Support healthy food financing initiatives that incentivize and support the availability of healthy foods in Texas' underserved communities.	<b>HB 3290 Rodriguez:</b> Creation of a farm to school community connections pilot program.	<b>HB 3290</b> - Left pending House Agriculture and Livestock, 4/15.

\*Bills that received a committee hearing

## Vaccinations are Important for all Texans

Priorities	Related Bills*	Last Action
Improve the public's access to information about immunization coverage in their communities, schools, and daycare facilities and provide information to the public on the incidence of disease.	<b>HB 2474 Sheffield:</b> Parents' right to know immunization exemption information on school campuses reports.	<b>HB 2474</b> - Passed by the House, referred to Senate HHS, 5/11.
Strengthen efforts to ensure pregnant women get vaccinated for pertussis.	No related bills had hearings.	
Support expanded funding for the Department of State Health Services Adult Safety Net program.	No related bills had hearings.	
Continue to store childhood immunization data for post-high school education and employment needs.	<b>HB 2171 Sheffield:</b> Maintains consented information in the immunization registry for families as teens enter early adulthood.	★ <b>HB 2171</b> – Signed by Governor, 6/17, effective 9/1.
Strengthen the immunization registry by making the consent process opt-out.	<b>HB 465 Howard:</b> Changes the immunization registry from opt in to opt out.	<b>HB 456</b> - Left pending in House Public Health, 3/3.

## Texas Must be a Leader in Cancer Prevention and Research

Priorities	Related Bills*	Last Action
Support DSHS' funding requests for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Services (BCCS) program and the Texas Cancer Registry.	<b>HB 1</b> and <b>SB 2</b>	★ <b>HB 1</b> - Adopted, 5/29.
Support full funding of the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas.	<b>HB 1</b> and <b>SB 2</b>	★ <b>HB 1</b> - Adopted, 5/29.
Strengthen CPRIT prevention programming to ensure adequate financial support of prevention, early detection, and survivorship programs.	<b>HB 4062 Coleman:</b> Allocation of CPRIT funds for prevention.  <b>SB 197 Schwertner:</b> Financial self-sufficiency plan for the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas.	<b>HB 4062</b> - Passed in the House, 5/8, referred to Senate Finance, 5/12.  <b>SB 197</b> - On the House Calendar, 5/26 but point of order sustained, 5/26.
	<b>HB 1282 Zerwas:</b> Development of HPV cancer strategic plan by DSHS.	★ <b>HB 1282</b> - Passed House and sent to Senate Health and Human Services, 5/4; amended to SB 200 Nelson/Price (HHSC Sunset); signed by Governor, 6/17, effective 9/1.

## Reduce the Toll of Tobacco in Texas

Priorities	Related Bills*	Last Action
Support adequate funding for comprehensive statewide tobacco control.	No related bills had hearings.	
Promote the adoption of local smoke-free ordinances across Texas.	No related bills had hearings.	
Support comprehensive statewide smoke-free legislation.	No related bills had hearings.	
Support regulation of e-cigarettes as tobacco products, including prevention of youth access.	<p><b>HB 170 Alvarado/SB 97 Hinojosa:</b> Regulation of the sale, distribution, possession, use, and advertising of vapor products.</p> <p><b>HB 456 Gutierrez/SB 96 Hinojosa:</b> Prohibiting the use and possession of vapor products on school property.</p> <p><b>SB 706 Garcia:</b> Classification of a liquid substance used to fill an electronic cigarette as a hazardous substance.</p>	<p>★ <b>SB 97</b> – Substituted for <b>HB 170</b> and signed by the Governor, 5/28. Earliest effective date, 10/1</p> <p><b>HB 456</b> - Passed in the House and received in the Senate, 4/14.  <b>SB 96</b> - Passed in Senate and left pending on House Calendar, 5/26 but relevant language included in SB 97.</p> <p><b>SB 706</b> - Left pending in Senate Health and Human Services, 4/6.</p>
Support an increase in the state tobacco tax by at least \$1.00 per pack of cigarettes and a comparable amount for other tobacco products.	No related bills had hearings.	

## Reduce Preventable Injuries

Priorities	Related Bills*	Last Action
Increase driver responsibility. Stop texting while driving public on the incidence of disease.	<b>HB 80 Craddick:</b> Use of a portable wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle.	<b>HB 80</b> - Passed House and left pending on Senate Calendar, 5/27.
Educate the public about the dangers of distracted driving.	No related bills had hearings.	