



To: Sergio Cavazos, Committee Clerk,
Texas House Committee on Insurance

From: Shannon & Mike Meroney,
On behalf of the Texas Association of Health Underwriters (<https://tahu.org>)
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Date: September 08, 2020

Re: Committee Request for Information regarding Interim Charge #1

Chairman Mr. Cavazos and Committee Members,

Thank you for this opportunity for TAHU to provide input in the form of a written submission on the Interim Charges studied by the Committee. TAHU (Texas Association of Health Underwriters) is a statewide trade organization of licensed health insurance agents. We have over 1,500 members across the State who help people and employers of all sizes find the best health insurance policy for their needs. TAHU's clients are typically the "mom and pop" small businesses on Main Street in towns all over Texas but they also serve larger companies and individuals. TAHU provides expertise and niche product service to companies who don't have the resources to staff a large HR Department. Their assistance begins with researching the best plans for each consumer and continues all the way through assisting with claims when needed. This results in TAHU members having their finger on the pulse of the real day to day needs of most Texans when it comes to finding affordable health insurance.

This submission addresses Interim Charge 1: Monitor the agencies and programs under the Committee's jurisdiction and oversee the implementation of relevant legislation passed by the 86th Legislature. Conduct active oversight of all associated rulemaking and other governmental actions taken to ensure intended legislative outcome of all legislation, including the following:

• HB 2536, which requires certain reporting requirements for drug manufacturers, pharmacy benefit managers, and health insurers on certain pharmaceutical practices, including the pricing and availability of insulin. Examine its effect on drug pricing in the market and how to increase transparency in pricing associated with delivery of drugs, such as insulin, to the end user patient.

- TAHU does not offer any comments on House Bill 2536.
