

- SUBJECT:** Extending time to respond to complaints filed with Texas Medical Board
- COMMITTEE:** Public Health — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 9 ayes — Kolkhorst, Coleman, S. Davis, Gonzales, S. King, Laubenberg, Schwertner, Truitt, Zerwas
- 0 nays
- 2 absent — Naishtat, Alvarado
- WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Dan Finch, Texas Medical Association)
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Mari Robinson, Texas Medical Board)
- BACKGROUND:** Current law requires the Texas Medical Board (TMB) to complete a preliminary investigation of a complaint filed against a physician within 30 days of receiving the complaint. Some interested parties have expressed a concern that 30 days is not enough time for the board to complete the investigation and consider the response of the physician.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 680 would amend Occupations Code, sec. 154 to extend from 30 days to 45 days the deadline for the Texas Medical Board to complete a preliminary investigation of a complaint against a licensed physician after receiving the complaint. It also would extend from 30 days to 45 days the deadline for the TMB to notify a licensed physician of an informal meeting with a license holder against whom a complaint has been filed.
- The bill would take effect September 1, 2011, and would apply only to the investigation of a complaint filed on or after the effective date.