

- SUBJECT:** Requiring HHSC to update Healthy Texas Women program provider list
- COMMITTEE:** Public Health — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — S. Thompson, Wray, Allison, Coleman, Lucio, Ortega, Sheffield, Zedler
- 2 nays — Frank, Price
- 1 absent — Guerra
- WITNESSES:** For — Tracy Wallace, East Dallas Persistent Women; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Carisa Lopez, Texas Freedom Network; Deneen Robinson, The Afiya Center; Idona Griffith; Linda Guy; Ash Hall)
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Kelly Garcia, Health and Human Services Commission)
- BACKGROUND:** Government Code ch. 531 subch. B governs the powers and duties of the Health and Human Services Commission, which include overseeing the Healthy Texas Women program. The Healthy Texas Women program provides women's health and family planning services at no cost to eligible, low-income women.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 2742 would require the Health and Human Services Commission at least once every six months to review, and if necessary, update the Healthy Texas Women program provider list to:
- ensure that each provider included on the list was participating in the program and that the list contained accurate contact information for each provider; and
  - make any necessary updates to the list to facilitate women's access to the program's health care services.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.

**SUPPORTERS  
SAY:**

CSHB 2742 would ensure Texas women had access to the most accurate list of providers under the Healthy Texas Women program. Maintaining an accurate provider list is necessary to improve the program's transparency and women's access to health care.

**OPPONENTS  
SAY:**

CSHB 2742 unnecessarily would require the Health and Human Services Commission to update the list of providers in the Healthy Texas Women program at least once every six months, a frequency of updates that could burden the agency.