

SUBJECT: Extending certain health care provider participation programs

COMMITTEE: County Affairs — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 6 ayes — Neave Criado, Stucky, Gerdes, J. Jones, Orr, Rosenthal

2 nays — Slaton, Tinderholt

1 absent — Schatzline

WITNESSES: For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Anthony Haley, Baylor Scott & White Health System; Stacy Wilson, Children’s Hospital Association of Texas; Travis Richmond, CHRISTUS Health; Paul Sugg, Harris County Commissioners Court; Juliana Cruz Kerker, HCA Healthcare; Tim Ottinger, St. Luke’s Health; Meredith Cooke, Texas Children’s Hospital; Joel Ballew, Texas Health Resources; Jennifer Banda, Texas Hospital Association; Elisa Hernandez, University Medical Center of El Paso)

Against — None

BACKGROUND: Some have suggested that there is a need to extend the operation of certain health care provider participation programs.

DIGEST: CSHB 3456 would extend certain hospital districts’ health care provider participation programs until December 31, 2027, including:

- the Dallas County Hospital District;
- the Tarrant County Hospital District;
- the Bexar County Hospital District;
- the El Paso County Hospital District;
- certain hospital districts in counties bordering Oklahoma; and
- hospital districts in counties with a population greater than 800,000 that was not included in the boundaries of a hospital district before September 1, 2003.

The bill also would extend the Harris County Hospital District's health care provider participation program until December 31, 2025.

Under the bill, certain provisions related to the extension of health care provider participation programs would apply only to a hospital district, county, or municipality that was not authorized to create such a program, rather than one that was not participating in such a program.

The bill would repeal a provision regarding the expiration of a local governments authority to operate a health care provider participation program.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2023.

NOTES:

According to the Legislative Budget Board, the fiscal implications of CSHB 3456 could not be determined because it was unknown which jurisdictions would be affected.