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**Tamela Southan  
Legislative**

# Post Cards From the Ledge

It's a wrap! The 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislative session ended with what may have been the shortest special session ever. Governor Perry exercised his authority to close State Agency business. What a great team, combining TAHU's legislative efforts with member support, cause and effect for a great session. **THANK YOU!**

**TAHU Initiatives that passed: (2 Key Bills)**

**SB 79** (Nelson) Small Group Specialty Certification (Implementation rules expected Fall '09)

**SB 80** (Nelson) 100% Employer Contribution Option – Effective for plans issued on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. Focused on insuring 100% of eligible's – the working uninsured.

**State Continuation Changes:** Effective 6/17/2009—Sunsets 9/1/2013

**SB 1771** (Duncan) Expansion of State Continuation 2-19 from 6 to 9 months

The phone calls, e-mails and letters paid off in the biggest way. Many unnecessary bills were defeated and others just did not make the cut. Your voice does count!

On the National scene, it's a heated debate with the August recess around the corner. Our energy, funding and talents are required to support healthy reform while retaining our freedoms.

The big debate to overhaul the American Healthcare System is in the forefront of National & International news. Stay plugged into NAHU e-News, Code Blue Alerts, Operation Shouts and most of all, We're Texan's right? Just pick up the phone for a 2 minute conversation with your legislator or committee members. Be a resource to help win the debate <http://capwiz.com/nahu/home/>

You have the knowledge – share it! Want to inform your local community? Consider hosting a Town Hall meeting in your neighborhood or local association. Contact TAHU Legislative Council at [legcouncil@tahu.org](mailto:legcouncil@tahu.org) / Tamela Southan @ 214-532-9442. We are here to help you. Help our industry survive the national reform battle.

Make Your call today!

Yours to count on,

Tamela Southan on behalf of the TAHU Legislative Council