

## Texas Association of Health Underwriters

Inform and protect the consumer by enhancing the professional growth of our members.

### Health Care Reform Tools!

Postcards From the Legislature

Reform is now the law of the land. Got questions, yes, we all do, as the guidelines are being crafted, we wanted to share two key questions NAHU has received due to the current implementation timeline regarding Dependent coverage and small employer tax credits. The IRS has just released key information to assist us ALL, to share with your clients.

FAQ's: <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=220839,00.htm>

**3 Simple Facts—Small Business Health Care Tax Credit**

[http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-utl/3\\_simple\\_steps.pdf](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-utl/3_simple_steps.pdf)

**Examples of How the Health Care Tax Credit applies to Your Employer?**

[http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-utl/small\\_business\\_health\\_care\\_tax\\_credit\\_scenarios.pdf](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-utl/small_business_health_care_tax_credit_scenarios.pdf)

#### 82nd Legislative Session

.....is closer than you think. With competitive primaries just weeks away, Your grassroots, local legislative relationships are key. We need the right incumbents in Austin. A few seats will be up from grabs and the election will have a direct impact on a few more congressional seats. Knowledge and education are Power!

“Well, no, it’s not over. We just have to make sure that we move methodically and that the American people understand what’s in the bill.”

TAHU Executive leaders attended a joint hearing held on March 31<sup>st</sup>, with State Affairs and Health & Human Services committees *Interim Charge #1: Upon passage of federal legislation relating to reform of the health care industry and health insurance industry, study the implications of such legislation on Texas, the health care industry, and public and private insurance. Study and monitor the implementation of the insurance regulatory changes, changes to high risk pool, and any other insurance mandates. Study the health care policy changes and the impact to the Medicaid and CHIP programs and the state budget. Assess the impact to all state uninsured and uncompensated care programs and county programs for the uninsured, including county property tax programs to pay for the uninsured. Make recommendations for the efficient implementation of programs.*

State Affairs portion of the hearing *Interim Charge 2 relating to monitoring the actuarial and financial conditions of health care programs administered by the Employees Retirement System. The state's own health care programs have been headed into perilous financial territory for years. This hearing may give a clue to what senators are thinking on how to cope with this, and beyond that, will this thinking carry over into their decisions about private insurance. To view the event use the link below or check out www.tahu.org for the committee hearings posting. Keeping you informed.*

**Podcast:** <http://www.senate.state.tx.us/avarchive/>

#### Houston—April 29—May 1st

**SB 79 Small Group Agent Certification CE Course is Live! TAHU Convention get registered!**

Are you working with your local representative? Why not? Give ‘em a call today.

Texas history in the making, with key seats up for grabs.



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“Where the determination is, the way can be found.”

- George S. Clason