

Texas Medical Board Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 6, 2019

TMB Statement on Withdrawn Senate Bill 1264 Rules

The Texas Medical Board proposed rules related to Senate Bill (SB) 1264 as a means to provide additional protections and notice to Texas patients. At today's December meeting, the Board withdrew its proposed rules as the rules would not cover all providers under the statute.

The Board acknowledges regulatory authority will not extend to all possible providers covered by SB 1264. The additional protections and notice sought by the statute would more appropriately come from definitions and descriptions of the statute that all appropriate regulatory agencies can propose rules for enforcement so that the rules ultimately apply to all providers in regards to billing issues.

Importantly, the Board is a complaint-driven entity, and mechanisms do exist in current Board rule and statute for enforcement of balance billing-related violations. [See [Chapter 187, Subchapter J](#), for complaints regarding out-of-network billing; Texas Occupations Code, [Sec 164.051\(a\)\(1\) and 164.053\(a\)\(1\)](#).]

The Board will thoroughly investigate licensees for violating the new balance billing law, and any law connected with the practice of medicine.

Moving forward the Board will be analyzing related rulemaking of other agencies and will work with appropriate state agencies to complement any future rulemaking.

The Board appreciates all comments and input it has received from the public and stakeholders on this important issue.

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