



## Legislative and Regulatory Updates

### **New Texas Securities Commissioner Named**

*12/20/11*

The Texas State Securities Board welcomed back John Morgan, naming him the new Texas Securities Commissioner last week. Morgan had served as Deputy Commissioner for 14 years before retiring from state employment in February. Morgan has 27 ½ years of experience at the Agency which includes 13 years in the Enforcement Division, eight of them as Director of Enforcement. During that time he was a special prosecutor in securities fraud trials in several Central Texas counties. Morgan replaces Benette L. Zivley, who resigned last month as Securities Commissioner.



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### **2012 TALHI Regulatory Round Table Registration Open**

*12/20/11*

TALHI Members may now [register](#) for the 2012 TALHI Regulatory Round Table scheduled for April 10-11, 2012 at the Omni Austin Downtown. Confirmed speakers include TDI Commissioner Eleanor Kitman.



## Legislative and Regulatory Updates

### **Legislative and Regulatory Committee Meeting Agenda Available**

*01/09/12*

TALHI's LRPC will meet via conference call on January 11, 2012. All TALHI members are invited to monitor and participate in the discussion. Contact [Ed Dodd](#) for a copy of the agenda.



## Legislative and Regulatory Updates

### **Recent Staff Changes at the Texas Department of Insurance**

*01/23/12*

Below are some recent staff changes at TDI that TALHI has been made aware of:

- **Enforcement:** Catherine Reyer, head of the division for several years, has left the Department. Sandra Nicholas, most recently with Government Relations, is currently acting head of Enforcement.
- **Government Relations:** Carol Cates, who has been with TDI for over 25 years, is retiring. With Sandra Nicholas moving to Enforcement, Carol's retirement leaves David Durden as the sole staff person in GR for the moment.
- **Life/Health Department:** Monica Pinon has left the Life/Health Division at TDI to work for TALHI member company BCBS of Texas as an Assistant General Counsel. Many of you might also remember working with Monica in the Texas House.



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### **HHS Denies Texas' Application for MLR Adjustment**

*01/30/12*

Below is TDI's response to the denial of Texas' MLR waiver request:

“In denying Texas' application, HHS stated that it took into account each carrier's MLR and profitability in making its decision and asserted that few issuers are reasonably likely to exit the individual market in Texas. The Department's application clearly showed otherwise. Of the 34 Texas carriers subject to the law, 23 will pay rebates based on 2010 data; at the 80 percent MLR threshold, these rebates will absorb the net underwriting profit for the entire individual market.

HHS' decision does not allow sufficient time for carriers to adjust their operating models, nor does it contemplate the effects on small and mid-level carriers that lack the resources and administrative economies of scale to compete in the individual market under PPACA. A reasonable, responsible phased-in approach would still have afforded rebates to Texas consumers without risking disruption, dislocation and withdrawal of carriers in the individual market. The Department will continue to work to ensure the availability of high-quality, high-value health insurance to this important underserved segment of the market.”



## Legislative and Regulatory Updates

### **Legislative and Regulatory Committee Meeting Agenda Available**

*02/01/12*

TALHI's LRPC will meet via conference call on February 8, 2012. All TALHI members are invited to monitor and participate in the discussion. Contact [Ed Dodd](#) for a copy of the agenda.



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