

- SUBJECT:** Oversight by DSHS of hospitals that commit certain violations
- COMMITTEE:** Public Health — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 10 ayes — Crownover, Naishtat, Blanco, Coleman, S. Davis, Guerra, R. Miller, Sheffield, Zedler, Zerwas
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — Collier
- WITNESSES:** For — Lee Spiller, Citizens Commission on Human Rights; Anthony Thomas; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Dan Finch, Texas Medical Association; Yannis Banks, Texas NAACP)
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Allison Hughes, Department of State Health Services)
- BACKGROUND:** Health and Safety Code, ch. 98 governs reporting of health care-associated infections and preventable adverse events. Chapter 98 requires health care facilities to report to the Department of State Health Services the occurrence of certain preventable adverse events involving patients at facilities.
- DIGEST:** HB 938 would direct the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to require a hospital that had committed a violation that resulted in a potentially preventable adverse event reportable under Health and Safety Code, ch. 98 to develop and implement a plan to address the deficiencies that could have contributed to the preventable adverse event.
- The bill would specify the following components that DSHS could require a hospital to include in its plan:
- staff training and education;
 - staff supervision requirements;

- increased staffing requirements;
- increased reporting to DSHS; and
- a review and amendment of patient safety policies.

The bill would direct DSHS to carefully and frequently monitor the hospital's adherence to the plan for addressing deficiencies and to enforce compliance.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2015, and would apply to a potentially preventable adverse event that occurred on or after that date.