State and Local Roles in Health Policy

Texas legislature
Texas health and human service agencies
City/County public health and hospital district
Questions

• Role of state and local health policy?
• Relate to federal health policy?
• How the legislature works?
• Organization/funding/responsibility of state and local health agencies?
• Hot topics?
Panelists

- Charles Begley, Professor, UT School of Public Health
- Annalee Gulley, Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs, Mental Health America of Greater Houston
- Frederic Warner, Vice President, Government Affairs, Memorial Hermann Health System
- Robert Hillier, Vice President, Public Policy and Government Relations, Harris Health System
- Tim Schauer, Senior Vice President, Cornerstone Government Affairs
Format

• Panelist brief presentation
• Discussion of topic
• Open discussion
Overview

• State Role
• Local Role
State Role

• Call public health emergencies and quarantines
• Regulate health insurance
• Serves as a pass through and administrator of joint federal/state programs
• Regulate food, air, water, etc.
• Establish rules and funding for local public health
• Fill gaps in federal programs/services
State Role [Cont]

- Public school physical and health education
- Prison and jail health
- State road construction and traffic safety
- Regulate and/or provide medical education
- License and regulate medical practice
Local Role

- Operate local public hospitals/clinics
- Operate local health department
- Deliver, license and regulate public water supply, solid waste services, trash and other public utilities
- Manage built environment and local traffic control
- Operate local school health education/services
- Provide/support delivery of services that receive federal/state/local funds