

Medical Ethics Committee Reporting

**As Required by
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter
166, Subchapter B, Section 166.054
House Bill 3162, 88th Legislature,
Regular Session, 2023
(Article II, HHSC, Rider 87)**

**Texas Health and Human Services
April 2025**



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

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Introduction

[Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 166, Subchapter B, Section 166.054, as added by 88\(R\) House Bill \(HB\) 3162](#), requires certain HHSC-regulated health care facilities to report information regarding ethics or medical committee processes when an attending physician refuses to honor an advance directive or health care decision made by or on behalf of a patient who is determined to be incompetent or is otherwise mentally or physically incapable of communication. Facilities must submit a report no later than the 180th day after the facility notifies the person responsible for the patient's health care decision in writing regarding the review process.

HB 3162 also requires the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to produce and publish on the agency's website an annual report containing certain aggregate information collected from these reports. This report is due by April 1 each year and must include information collected during the prior calendar year. The information HHSC must include differs depending on the number of reports received from facilities during the previous year. The reported information must not identify any individual, entity, or facility.

In compliance with reporting requirements of HB 3162, the HHSC Office of Data, Analytics, and Performance (DAP) and its Regulatory Services Division collaborated to develop a reporting form to collect the information required by the bill. On September 1, 2023, HHSC published information regarding HB 3162 and the reporting instructions on the agency website and sent a communication to health care facilities notifying them of HB 3162 and the reporting requirements via GovDelivery. In addition, HHSC established an email address for questions regarding reporting on HB 3162. The first annual report was published on the HHSC website on April 1, 2024.

MECR Annual Report

This report is produced in compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 166, Subchapter B, Section 166.054 as amended by HB 3162, 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023. HHSC received fewer than ten reports during calendar year 2024. The required data are reported below.

2024 MECR Annual Report

The total number of notices provided under Section 166.046(b)(1):

2

The average number of days described by Section (a)(1):

43.5

The total number of meetings held by ethics or medical committees to review cases under Section 166.046:

2

The average number of days described by Subsection (a)(2):

7

The total number of patients described by Subsections (a)(3)(A), (B), and (C):

Patients transferred to a different physician within the same facility who was willing to comply with the patient's directive: 0
Patients remained under the care of the original attending physician: 2
Patients transferred to a different healthcare facility: 1
Patients discharged from the facility to a private residence or other setting that is not a health care facility: 0

The total number of patients who died while receiving life-sustaining treatment at the facility, as described by Subsection (a)(4):

1

The total number of patients for whom life-sustaining treatment was withheld or withdrawn after expiration of the time period described by Section 166.046 (e):

0

The total number of cases for which the facility was notified of and able to reasonably verify the public disclosure of the contact information for the facility's personnel, physicians or health care professionals who provide care at the facility, or members of the ethics or medical committee in connection with the patient's stay at the facility:

0

The total number of cases for which the facility was notified of and able to reasonably verify the public disclosure by facility personnel of contact information for the patient's immediate family members or person responsible for the patient's health care decisions in connection with the patient's stay at the facility:

0

List of Acronyms

Acronym	Full Name
DAP	Data, Analytics, and Performance
HB	House Bill
HHSC	Health and Human Services Commission
MECR	Medical Ethics Committee Reporting