

# Legislative Update

from



The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is proposing to **reduce HCS and TxHml rates by 2% below the current rates**, effective February 1, 2011. The potential ramifications of the proposed reduction in rates may be increased wait-times for individuals with disabilities to come to the top of the interest lists, diminished levels of care, or closure of HCS provider organizations.

An additional 7.4% reduction in HCS and TxHml rates is being proposed for the next biennium (2012/2013), that is expected to further impact the ability of HCS provider organizations to provide services and remain solvent.

**If the issue of proposed reductions to the Texas Medicaid Waiver HCS Program is of interest to you, the following information may help you communicate your questions, concerns or suggestions.**

- Submit written comments to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission or attend the public hearing in Austin at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 7, 2011.
- Contact your legislators to share your beliefs.
- Register for the First Quarterly Webinar for HCS/TxHmL External Stakeholders to be held on Thursday, January 20, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Go to [www.villagelac.org](http://www.villagelac.org) for additional information, including links to information about the Texas Health and Human Services Commission public hearing, how to register to participate in the webinar, or to download the HHSC briefing package and rate tables.**