



# DENNIS BONNEN



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

## **COVID-19 ADVISORY**

**March 20, 2020 | RE: STATE SUPPORTED LIVING CENTER VISITS**

### **Texas Health and Human Services**

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, Texas Health and Human Services has temporarily suspended visitation and on-campus events at state hospitals and state supported living centers across Texas.

On-campus events such as family association meetings, volunteer services council meetings and express hiring events are cancelled until further notice. If applicable, meetings can be held by phone.

Rare exceptions to the temporary visitation policy may be granted with the approval of the patient's or resident's treatment team and the associate commissioner. The policy does not apply to in-person visits for people receiving end-of-life care, state investigators, law enforcement, Texas Office of Inspector General, and judges, attorneys and staff.

All approved visitors will be subject to a temperature check before entering the facility as well as a travel history check. People visiting these facilities must pass these screenings to be allowed on campus. There are no exceptions.

State hospitals provide inpatient psychiatric care for patients, and SSLCs provide 24-hour residential care for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.