

# HHSC- Border Rate Workgroups



Presented to the House Committee on  
Border and International Affairs

March 6, 2003

# Actions Taken by by 77<sup>th</sup> Legislature

- Senate Bill 1299 and Senate Bill 1053 were enacted that required HHSC to evaluation rates along the border compared to the rest of the state
- The El Paso Service Delivery Area received a large increase in their capitation rates

# Actions Take by 77<sup>th</sup> Legislature (Continued)

- High Volume Medicaid Providers were given an increase in rates
- The reimbursement rate for certain procedures used by physicians was increased

# Border Rate Workgroups- Background

- Border Rate Workgroup of 2000
- Senate Bill 1299 Advisory Committee (77<sup>th</sup> Legislature)- report issued to Legislature August, 2002
- Senate Bill 1053 Advisory Committee (77<sup>th</sup> Legislature)- report issued to HHSC February, 2003

# Advisory Groups Identify Common Elements Along Border

- The Advisory Groups identified common reasons for lower utilization and less access to health services along the border compared to other areas of the state including:
  - Low number of providers
  - Low Incurred Claims
  - Care Across the Border
  - Illness vs. Prevention
  - Transportation

# HHSC Actions

- Colonias Initiatives
- Promotora Projects
- Assessing factors contributing to lower health care utilization along the border