Physician-owners can – and do – steer patients to the facilities they own.

Patients rely on their physicians to determine what care to get and where to get it. When physicians own limited-service hospitals, they have a financial incentive to steer patients to those facilities – which the data suggests is exactly what happens.

CLOSE THE LOOPHOLE:
Make permanent the ban on physician self-referral to new limited-service hospitals.

Source: Texas Hospital Association, Covenant Health System