

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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LOOK WHO'S 40: MEDICAID CLIENTS & EXPERTS TO CELEBRATE PROGRAM'S BIRTHDAY AND URGE CONGRESS TO KEEP PROGRAM HEALTHY

Austin, TX— Join Medicaid clients and health care experts for a **Happy Birthday Medicaid** press briefing/party in the **Lt. Governor's Reception Room on Thursday, July 28 at 11 a.m.** Medicaid turns 40 on July 30.

Today in Texas, more than 2.6 million children, the elderly, and disabled or low-income people rely on Medicaid. Since 1965, Medicaid has reduced the number of the uninsured and lowered infant mortality, childhood deaths, and preventable hospitalizations for millions more Texans.

This fall, Congress is considering cutting Medicaid funding by \$10 billion over the next five years. Texas could stand to lose \$600 million. Experts will urge Congress to proceed with caution: encouraging changes that will control Medicaid costs through better care and smarter purchasing, without compromising health care for Texas' most vulnerable.

In conjunction with this event, more than two dozen Texas organizations and institutions are issuing press statements celebrating this anniversary and calling attention to critical role of Medicaid in providing health care for Texans.

WHAT: Happy Birthday Medicaid Press Briefing

WHO: Medicaid clients and family members
Anne Dunkelberg, Assistant Director, CPHP
Charles J. Barnett, SETON President and CEO
Sen. Judith Zaffirini
Pastor Tom Heger, St. John's Presbyterian Church

WHEN: Thursday, July 28
11:00 a.m.

WHERE: Lt. Governor's Reception Room (2E.16)
Texas State Capitol

Birthday cake will be provided.

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