

STATE of TEXAS
HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES



GARNET F. COLEMAN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 147

Mr. Albert Hawkins
Executive Commissioner
Texas Health and Human Services Commission
P.O. Box 13247
Austin, Texas 78711-3247

Dear Commissioner Hawkins:

I am writing to renew the request I made last February for you to make financial and caseload information on health and human services programs available online. On Wednesday, Governor Perry's campaign announced that he wants to "open the state government checkbook to the public" and require all state agencies to publish expenditures online.

As you and I know, it is not necessary to wait for the legislature to pass a law for this information to be made accessible to the public electronically. You can do this today. In fact, your agency used to post quarterly financial reports and caseload information on your website routinely, but for some reason you stopped making this information available online. For example, the most recent quarterly financial report that is posted on your website is for the 3rd quarter of 2004, and the most recent Medicaid enrollment figures that are available electronically are for October 2005. These reports provide vital information for policy makers and public citizens on critically important health and human services programs that are under your jurisdiction, and I urge you, once again, to make this information available on the internet in a timely manner.

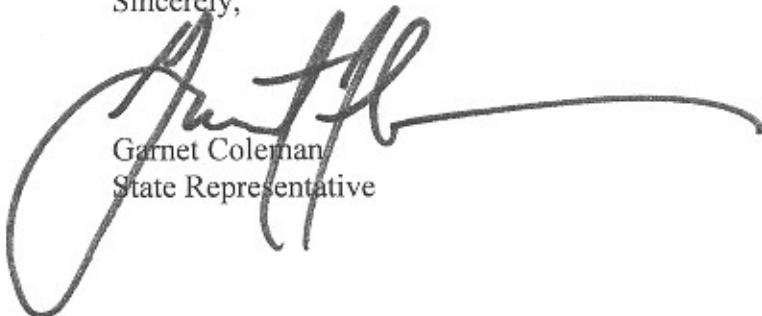
In the meantime, I am requesting that you provide my office with the following information immediately:

- 1) the total number of children enrolled in Medicaid on September 1, 2005, September 1, 2006 and October 1, 2006;
- 2) the average number of Medicaid children recipient months per month estimated in the appropriations bill for FY 2006 and the actual average number of recipient months per month in FY 2006;
- 3) the amount of state funds appropriated for FY 2006 for Goal B, Medicaid, and the actual amount of state funds expended;
- 4) the total amount of state funds appropriated for Goal B for FY 2006 that were carried forward into FY 2007;

- 5) the total number of children enrolled in CHIP on September 1, 2005, September 1, 2006, and October 1, 2006;
- 6) the average number of CHIP recipient months per month estimated in the appropriations bill for FY 2006 and the actual average number of recipient months per month;
- 6) the amount of state funds appropriated for FY 2006 for Goal C, CHIP Services and the actual amount of state funds expended;
- 7) the total amount of state funds that were appropriated for Goal C for FY 2006 that were carried forward into FY 2007; and
- 8) the total number of Katrina children enrolled in the Medicaid program on September 1, 2006, and the total number of Katrina children enrolled in the CHIP program on September 1, 2006. Please indicate whether these figures are included in the Medicaid and CHIP enrollment numbers requested under items #1 and #5.

If you are unable to deliver any of the above information immediately, please contact Phillip Martin in my Capitol Office at 512-463-0524 to discuss alternative arrangements for providing the information.

Sincerely,



Garnet Coleman
State Representative