



## **Cover Texas Now: Quality Affordable Coverage and a Sustainable Health Care System**

Cover Texas Now Advocacy Day • March 30, 2011 • Texas State Capitol • Austin, Texas

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### **Cover Texas Now 2011 Principles and Goals**

#### **Key Principles:**

- Quality affordable health insurance available for every Texan
- Sustainable health care system
- Maximize federal funding for Texas health care by preserving CHIP and Medicaid
- Improve small business' access to affordable health insurance
- Establish common-sense protections for Texas health insurance consumers in state law
- Transparent, open systems that meet consumers' needs

#### **Goals for the 82<sup>nd</sup> Texas Legislature:**

The 82<sup>nd</sup> Texas Legislature must equip the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to fulfill their responsibilities under the federal **Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA)**, and to enable the creation of a Texas Health Insurance Exchange.

#### **To get the best deal for Texans, we must take 3 steps in 2011:**

1. Start building a strong Texas insurance exchange to help families and small businesses get affordable insurance in 2014.
2. Make sure the Texas Department of Insurance can enforce popular insurance reforms—like no pre-existing denials for kids, keeping kids on your policy until age 26, and making sure rate hikes are fair.
3. Give state agencies and the exchange the authority and tools to build consumer-friendly systems for enrolling in health coverage

**Let's get this right for Texas!**