



Children's Hospital Association of Texas
An Association for the Advancement of Children's Healthcare in Texas

Preserve Funding for Children's Hospitals

The Appropriations Bill makes across the board cuts to Medicaid funding for children's hospitals that will harm our ability to provide clinical care, to train and recruit the pediatricians and pediatric specialists that children need, and to advance the quality of pediatric care through research and innovations in service delivery.

- The bill cuts hospital reimbursement by 10 percent. Reducing payments to well below the cost of providing care will undermine our ability to see any child who needs specialized pediatric care.
- The bill eliminates funding for the children's hospital Upper Payment Limit (UPL) program which helps to fund hospital losses due to below-cost Medicaid outpatient reimbursement and unreimbursed Medicaid costs for physician residency training programs.
- The bill cuts payment to physicians and other providers by 10 percent. Fewer doctors and dentists willing to see children on Medicaid means children will wait longer to get care. The resulting delays in diagnosis and treatment will shift more care for children to the emergency room and to the inpatient hospital setting.

Cutting state Medicaid funding for children's hospitals means leaving federal dollars on the table that should support children's healthcare in Texas, shifting costs to local providers and private insurance, and reducing our capacity to care for the fast growing child population.

Children's Hospitals Ask:

- Preserve funding for inpatient care at children's hospitals to maintain our ability to care for all children, irrespective of how sick or injured or what insurance coverage a child has.
- Restore funding for primary care and pediatric subspecialty services for children, including funding for outpatient children's hospital services to protect access to care.
- Continue the Children's Hospital UPL program to help support the comprehensive scope of services that children's hospitals offer.