



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

WHEREAS, access to affordable health insurance affects all Texans;

WHEREAS, everyone pays the price when individuals, families and small businesses cannot afford health insurance;

WHEREAS, the increasing costs of uncompensated care place a strain on Texas hospitals, other health care providers and on the quality of care every patient receives;

WHEREAS, individuals with health insurance have better access to routine, preventive health care services and therefore have a better quality of life;

WHEREAS, as costs continue to rise, fewer individuals and families can afford to pay for coverage and fewer small businesses are able to provide coverage for their employees; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature is considering a number of bills that will provide health coverage to more Texans through the private sector and through appropriate levels of funding for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, Texas recognizes the urgency to take meaningful steps to make health insurance more affordable and accessible for all, and I hereby declare April 23-29, 2007, as

***Cover the Uninsured Week***



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,  
I hereby affix my signature this the  
12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2007.

*Rick Perry*  
Governor of Texas