



LOUISIANA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joint Statement from Louisiana Hospital Association and Metropolitan Hospital Council of New Orleans Regarding Budget Announcement February 9, 2012

Joint Statement from LHA President & CEO John Matessino and MHCNO CEO Paul Salles

Today Gov. Jindal's Administration presented the FY 2012-2013 Executive Budget to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

While we are extremely disappointed in the proposed cuts to community hospitals, we realize that this is only the first step in the overall budget process.

We will work, along with local community hospitals across Louisiana, to educate and remind legislators about the critical services these hospitals provide to all Louisiana families and communities, especially to our most vulnerable patients – children and the elderly. At a time when our state is being recognized nationally for job growth, it is also important to remember that Louisiana community hospitals are major economic contributors, and cuts to these hospitals would threaten jobs and job creation.

Through the years, we have worked responsibly and reasonably with Gov. Jindal, the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Louisiana Legislature, and we hope to maintain that positive and collaborative approach.

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