



## **STATEWIDE 2015 POLL SHOWS TEXANS OVERWHELMINGLY SUPPORT INCREASED MEDICAID FUNDING FOR NURSING HOME CARE**

A statewide Baseline & Associates, Inc. Texas April 2015 voter survey polled 949 voters, forty-one percent who say they most frequently vote for Republican candidates versus thirty-four percent who typically vote for Democrats.

**88%** of respondents think that ensuring adequate Medicaid funding to care for low-income seniors in nursing homes is just as important as other top priorities like transportation, water, and education.

**77%** of respondents favor the legislature fully funding Medicaid for low-income seniors in nursing homes at the levels the state itself says is needed to meet the cost of providing this care. Medicaid for nursing home care is currently underfunded by \$343 million dollars.

**80%** of respondents favor increasing Medicaid for elderly beneficiaries in nursing homes. It is estimated that Medicaid pays about six dollars per hour a day for the care of each low-income senior in a nursing home. These low rates keep staff wages low and threaten workforce stability. By increasing Medicaid for nursing homes, providers can increase staff wages and stabilize the care workforce.

### **TEXAS STATE LEGISLATORS: SUPPORT INCREASING THE MEDICAID BASE RATE TO HELP PROVIDERS STABILIZE THE SKILLED NURSING CARE WORKFORCE AND ELEVATING THE QUALITY OF CARE FOR TEXAS SENIORS**

*The adult respondents were asked if they were registered to vote. The respondents who were registered to vote were weighted to be representative of the actual distribution of voters in the 2012 general election for each region of the state. The confidence interval associated with the results of the N=949 registered voters is such that 95% of the time the results will be within +/-3.2% of the "true values" where "true values" refer to the results obtained if it were possible to interview every registered voter in the state. The results to the registered voter portion of this survey were weighted slightly to reflect the actual partisan vote behavior, the racial/ethnic distribution of voters, and the presidential election year voting age distribution for each region of the state.*