

## Executive Summary

### PERCEPTIONS OF HEALTH CARE REFORM AMONG 18+ LOUISIANA RESIDENTS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

An AARP poll of 800 shows Louisiana residents' support for health care reform in the state.

- Over half (52%) of all Louisiana residents polled believe the current state of health care in Louisiana is in a state of crisis or has major problems.
- Four in five (89%) Louisiana residents think it is extremely or very important to make health care affordable for all residents.
- Four in five (83%) Louisiana residents strongly or somewhat agree that all Louisianans should have access to the same basic health care coverage.
- Three in four (77%) agree that everyone- employers, individuals, and the government, should contribute to a system so that everyone can have the same basic health care coverage.
- Four in five Louisianans, regardless of health care coverage status, age, education, self-reported voting frequency, or income, say it is extremely or very important to be able to easily navigate through the health care system and access health care services.
- Expanding the availability of Medical Homes, a coordinated care system based on low-income recipients having a network of physicians focused on primary care, has been proposed to provide health care to more residents and reduce reliance on the Charity Hospital System.
- Two in three (66%) Louisiana residents polled support using some of the funds for the Charity Hospital System to expand the availability of Medical Homes in the state of Louisiana.
- Three in five (60%) Louisiana residents polled would be more likely to vote for a candidate for public office if he or she supports the creation of a system that makes the same basic health care coverage available to all Louisianans at affordable rates.

### Methodology

This random digit dial (RDD) telephone survey of Louisiana residents age 18 and older was conducted between April 23 and May 12, 2007, and a total of 800 interviews were completed. A sample of this size has a sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percent. Survey responses were weighted to reflect the actual distribution of age and gender for the population of residents age 18 and older in Louisiana. Weighted responses to all survey questions are available in the full report.