



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2026

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Rep. Vikki Goodwin Announces First-Of-Its-Kind State Healthcare Plan To Cover The 5 Million Texans Without Health Insurance

*Goodwin has proposed a **self-sustaining state administered health insurance program** that covers vision, dental, emergency, preventative, maternity and mental health care – available to all Texans, regardless of pre-existing conditions.*

[Houston, TX] Democratic nominee for Lt. Governor and 4-term HD-47 Representative **Vikki Goodwin** announced her “**affordable healthcare plan for all Texans**” from a Houston pediatric clinic this morning, with a show of support from regional elected officials, candidates, and community members. *The press conference kicks off her week-long Healthcare Tour, complete with campaign RV wrapped with her healthcare plan logo and messaging.*

The Texas Cares Plan will address Texas’ healthcare affordability crisis, barriers to accessing care, shortage of healthcare providers, and the lack of transparency for patients and providers while also providing an alternative for workers and small and midsize employers struggling with the rising cost of employer-sponsored coverage. [SEE PRESS KIT FOR PICTURES & MORE INFO.](#)

In her statements, she emphasized the need for preventative care and annual checkups, stating: “A problem that could have been treated in a doctor’s office becomes an emergency in an emergency room. **We’ve built a health care system that waits until people are at their sickest before we help them.**”

She went on to lay out her plan, describing Texas Cares as “**designed to cover Texans who have been left behind while also creating a more stable, more affordable option for Texans who already have coverage but are watching their premiums climb year after year.**”

She proposed setting up the Texas Cares Plan using a **one-time investment from the Texas Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF)**, known as the Rainy Day Fund, a state savings account that currently holds a record balance of over \$25 billion. **Of the three tiers of coverage**, the first would be funded by an **expansion of Medicaid**, with the federal government covering 90% of all health expenses and the state covering the remaining 10% plus administrative costs.

She describes the program as “self-sustaining” and quantifies the success of the program in terms of people insured and healthcare received: “**By creating a high-quality, affordable option with stable premiums, Texas Cares gives Texans a better choice:** one built around preventive care and putting families ahead of rising costs. As more Texans choose that option because it works for their families, the program becomes increasingly self-sustaining.”

View details at Goodwin4Texas.com/TexasCares



“As a dentist, I’ve seen too many Texans forced to choose between getting the care they need and paying the bills they have. Rep. Vikki Goodwin’s Texas Cares plan starts a conversation we’ve needed for far too long about making healthcare more affordable and accessible for working families. I’m proud to join her as we work toward a healthier, safer Texas,” says **Dr. Letitia Plummer**, Former Houston City Councilwoman and Democratic Nominee for Harris County Judge

Texas has the highest number of uninsured people in the nation, and one in four children without health insurance lives in Texas. Republican leaders in Texas have refused to expand Medicaid, causing the state to miss out on approximately \$10 billion in federal funding each year, according to [Cover Texas Now](#). Since 2014, that adds up to over \$100 billion in lost federal support.

TIME: 10:00 AM CST

LOCATION: Pediatric Associates, 4501 Groveway Dr, Houston, TX 77087

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS: HD-145 Representative **Christina Morales**

Former Houston City Council Member and candidate for Harris County Judge Dr. **Letitia Plummer**

Democratic nominee for SD-138 **Tyler Smith**

Pediatric Doctor and owner of Pediatric Associates Dr. **Martin Yudovich** (Spanish comments)

Healthcare Tour Schedule – cont. on following pages

Tuesday, August 19

Healthcare Town Hall in Sugar Land: Rep. Vikki Goodwin will host a healthcare town hall for residents to introduce her Texas Cares plan, hear personal stories, and answer questions from voters.

CONFIRMED GUESTS: HD-76 Representative and Primary Care Physician **Dr. Suleman Lalani**

Fort Bend County Commissioner and candidate for Fort Bend County Judge **Dexter McCoy**

Democratic nominee for HD-26 and Professor of Public Health at The University of Houston **Dr. Elizabeth “Eliz” Markowitz**

TIME: 6:00 PM CST

LOCATION: Anjali Center for Performing Arts 2615 Cordes Dr, Sugar Land, TX 77479

DETAILS: Town Hall featuring regional candidates, Q&A with Rep. Goodwin

Mobilize Link: <https://www.mobilize.us/texasdemocrats/event/1006129/>

WEDNESDAY, August 19, 2026

Healthcare Town Hall in Beaumont: Rep. Vikki Goodwin will host a healthcare town hall for residents to introduce her Texas Cares plan, hear personal stories, and answer questions from voters.

CONFIRMED GUESTS: Democratic nominee for HD-21 **Jacqueline “Jacky” Hernandez**

TIME: 6:00 PM CST

LOCATION: United Steelworkers Local 13-243 2490 South 11th St Beaumont, TX 77701

DETAILS: Town Hall featuring regional candidates, Q&A with Rep. Goodwin

Mobilize Link: <https://www.mobilize.us/texasdemocrats/event/1006132/>

View details at Goodwin4Texas.com/TexasCares



THURSDAY, August 20, 2026

Healthcare Town Hall in Nacogdoches: Rep. Vikki Goodwin will host a healthcare town hall for residents to introduce her Texas Cares plan, hear personal stories, and answer questions from voters.

CONFIRMED GUESTS: Democratic nominee for CD-1 **Yolanda Prince**

Democratic nominee for SD-3 **Bobby Tillman**

Democratic nominee for HD-11 **Roxanne Lathan**

Democratic nominee for SBOE District 9 **Ericka Ledferd**

TIME: 6:00 PM CST

LOCATION: United Steelworkers Local 13-243 2490 South 11th St Beaumont, TX 77701

DETAILS: Town Hall featuring regional candidates, Q&A with Rep. Goodwin

Mobilize Link: <https://www.mobilize.us/texasdemocrats/event/1006136/>

FRIDAY, August 21, 2026

Healthcare Town Hall in Tyler: Rep. Vikki Goodwin will host a healthcare town hall for residents to introduce her Texas Cares plan, hear personal stories, and answer questions from voters.

CONFIRMED GUESTS:

State Senator District 14 and Democratic nominee for Comptroller **Sarah Eckhardt**

Democratic nominee for CD-1 **Yolanda Prince**

TIME: 6:00 PM CST

LOCATION: Liberty Baptist Church 2506 North Broadway Avenue Tyler,, TX 75702

DETAILS: Town Hall featuring regional candidates, Q&A with Rep. Goodwin

Mobilize Link: <https://www.mobilize.us/texasdemocrats/event/1006140/>

SATURDAY, August 22, 2026

Healthcare Town Hall in Arlington: Rep. Vikki Goodwin will host a healthcare town hall for residents to introduce her Texas Cares plan, hear personal stories, and answer questions from voters.

CONFIRMED GUESTS: Tarrant County Commissioner and candidate for County Judge **Alisa Simmons**

Grand Prairie City Council Member and Democratic nominee for HD-101 Junior Ezeonu

TIME: 12:00 PM CST

LOCATION: Westminster Presbyterian Church 1330 South Fielder Road Arlington, TX, 76013

DETAILS: Town Hall featuring regional candidates, Q&A with Rep. Goodwin

Mobilize Link: <https://www.mobilize.us/texasdemocrats/event/1006150/>

ALSO ON SATURDAY

Healthcare Town Hall in Dallas: Rep. Vikki Goodwin will host a healthcare town hall for residents to introduce her Texas Cares plan, hear personal stories, and answer questions from voters.

CONFIRMED GUESTS: Democratic nominee for Agriculture Commissioner **Clayton Tucker**

TIME: 4:00 PM CST

LOCATION: 913 Bar & Grill 3400 S Fitzhugh Ave, Dallas, TX 75210

DETAILS: Town Hall featuring regional candidates, Q&A with Rep. Goodwin

Mobilize Link: <https://www.mobilize.us/texasdemocrats/event/1006148/>

SUNDAY, August 23, 2026

Healthcare Town Hall in Waco: Rep. Vikki Goodwin will host a healthcare town hall for residents to introduce her Texas Cares plan, hear personal stories, and answer questions from voters.

View details at [Goodwin4Texas.com/TexasCares](https://www.Goodwin4Texas.com/TexasCares)



CONFIRMED GUESTS: TBD

TIME: 6:00 PM CST

LOCATION: PACC Theater 924 Austin Avenue Ste 150 Waco, TX, 76701

DETAILS: Town Hall featuring regional candidates, Q&A with Rep. Goodwin

Mobilize Link: <https://www.mobilize.us/texasdemocrats/event/1006160/>

View details at Goodwin4Texas.com/TexasCares