

**Media Advisory**

**June 6, 2007**

## **Task Force for a Healthier North Carolina Meets to Discuss Small Employers Health Insurance Coverage**

**RALEIGH, NC** – The NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund’s Task Force for a Healthier North Carolina will conduct a forum on Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> in Research Triangle Park to discuss Small Employer Health Insurance Coverage.

The forum will focus on the state of small business health insurance reform in North Carolina, the challenges of small employer health insurance pools, and what role the private sector can play.

**Who:** Task Force for a Healthier North Carolina

**What:** Public Forum on Small Employers and the Provision of Health Insurance Coverage

**When:** June 8, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Where:** NC Biotechnology Center, Hamner Conference Center Auditorium, 15 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC

The forum is free and open to the public.

The Task Force was commissioned by the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund and has partnered with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Lewin Group to provide research and administrative support. This is the third health-related forum under examination by the Task Force. The group previously studied the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit for seniors and children’s health insurance. The Task Force continues to make recommendations about near term measures to address these issues.

### **About the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund**

*The NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund makes North Carolina stronger, both physically and economically, by funding programs that promote preventive health. Created by the General Assembly in 2000 to allocate a portion of North Carolina's share of the national tobacco settlement, HWTF has invested \$143 million to support preventive health initiatives and \$102 million to fund prescription drug assistance programs. For more information, please visit [www.HealthWellNC.com](http://www.HealthWellNC.com).*

**-END-**