FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Non-Profit Severs Ties with Health Insurance Giant Over Cuts

Rates and Services Cuts At Issue

Austin, TX, June 26, 2012. The non-profit Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD) announced today it is terminating its contract with Molina Healthcare in response to the insurance company's service and rate cuts. Executive Director Dennis Borel further said that CTD is returning Molina's sponsorship for its September disabilities conference in McAllen and revoking an invitation to address the attendees. CTD also takes exception to Dr. Mario Molina's characterization of the population served as "sick". Neither living with a disability or advancing age should be considered a sickness.

CTD is a statewide disability advocacy organization that also operates a consumer directed services agency, which serves the elderly and people with disabilities in Texas' STAR Plus Medicaid managed care program. Molina's action to cut rates and services to critical attendant care programs amounts to a breech of trust.

"We refuse to be party to such an act," said Borel. Molina's unprecedented 10% rate cut puts CTD in the position of reducing the wages of direct care workers who are already paid abysmally low. Just a day earlier, Molina had separately issued a statement reducing transportation, dental and vision services to the elderly and people with disabilities.

The decision was difficult. Molina recently expanded by tens of thousands of Texas members and CTD projected a growing relationship based on the cost-effective community services that the elderly and people with disabilities overwhelmingly prefer. Instead, these actions will likely cause people to lose the attendant care that often keeps them out of more costly nursing facilities. Molina officials cited a lack of adequate profits as the reason for the rate and service cuts.

CTD has contracts with several of the managed care organizations that oversee STAR Plus. The termination applies only to Molina Healthcare. The disabilities group is giving 30 days notice and will work with the Molina members it serves to ensure a smooth transition to another service provider.

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities is a non-profit organization with a mission to ensure that people with disabilities may live, learn, work, play and participate fully in their community of choice.