



State of Louisiana
Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of the Secretary

March 29, 2013

The Honorable Bobby Jindal
Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Dear Governor Jindal:

After careful thought and deliberation, I ask that you accept this letter of resignation from my position as Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, effective May 1, 2013. Serving as Louisiana's health chief has been both the most challenging and rewarding role of my career. I am gratified by the incredible accomplishments we've been able to achieve over the past two and a half years that forever change the health care landscape in Louisiana.

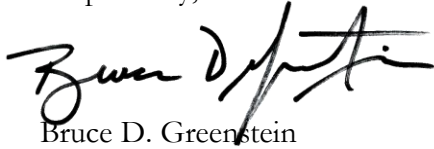
During my time at DHH, we've worked to change the culture of our agency. By focusing on measuring our success and inspiring individuals to own their own health, the team at DHH has worked in innovative and collaborative ways to identify new strategies that help us operate better, smarter and more efficiently. The many accomplishments of the past few years, outlined in the attached document, make that evident. From moving more people off waiting lists and into support services, to making it easier for people to access health information, and to fundamental reforms of our health care delivery system through the implementation of managed care, we've accomplished a generation's worth of change in a short window of time.

Perhaps the most personally meaningful effort for me involves our work to improve the health of pregnant women and newborns in our state through the Birth Outcomes Initiative. When I began this journey, I was confronted with Louisiana's perpetually failing and completely unacceptable marks in this area. We worked quickly to make this a priority for our department. Within a year of beginning our intense focus, our team had successfully petitioned all Louisiana birthing hospitals to end the practice of scheduling elective deliveries before 39 weeks. Those efforts have translated into a very real decrease in NICU admissions – approximately 15,000 fewer NICU days in the first year alone. That means more infants are leaving the hospital in a car seat a day or two after the birth.

Our work is not yet done. We've built a team of incredibly talented individuals, each dedicated to the cause of creating a healthier Louisiana, who will continue to execute on our bold agenda. Knowing that our important mission will continue under their stewardship eases the immense difficulty that comes with this decision.

I thank you again for the honor and privilege that it has been to serve the people of Louisiana. This state's gracious people and generous culture have left a permanent and meaningful impact on the lives of my family and me. I am grateful for our time here and I will forever remember this period of our lives with fondness and pride. I wish the best of luck to you and to those I served alongside with for your continued success.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce D. Greenstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bruce" being the most prominent part.

Bruce D. Greenstein