

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 21, 2023 **CONTACT:** Raegan A. Carter (225) 927-7662 ext. 211 rcarter@lpca.net

LPCA Statement on New LDH Secretary Dr. Ralph Abraham

The Louisiana Primary Care Association congratulates Dr. Ralph Abraham on being selected to serve as the next secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health. Dr. Abraham is well-known and well-respected among our membership. We know that, with his experience serving patients in rural Northeast Louisiana, Dr. Abraham is familiar with the health challenges facing our state's most underserved and rural communities.

During his time in Congress, Dr. Abraham served as a champion for our Community Health Center members and an advocate for expanding access to healthcare services. When it comes to addressing social determinants of health, de-stigmatizing mental health services, improving rates of screenings and vaccinations, reducing chronic disease and leading on other important initiatives, we are confident that Dr. Abraham will provide valuable leadership and expertise.

We look forward to working with Dr. Abraham and Governor Jeff Landry. As we always have, the Louisiana Primary Care Association stands ready to serve as a resource and collaborative partner.

Finally, we also want to thank outgoing secretary Stephen Russo for his dedicated public service and his unyielding support for Louisiana's Federally Qualified Health Centers. Under his leadership, Mr. Russo has advanced numerous programs and initiatives that will ultimately help to improve the health and well-being of residents across our state.

###

About the Louisiana Primary Care Association

Established in 1982 as a non-profit organization, the Louisiana Primary Care Association proudly serves as the voice of Louisiana's Community Health Centers, promoting accessible, affordable, quality healthcare services for the uninsured and medically underserved populations of our state. LPCA represents 41 federally funded Community Health Center organizations who collectively serve over 475,000 patients per year. Learn more at LPCA.net.

PHONE : (225) 927-7662

EMAIL : LPCA@LPCA.NET

ADDRESS : 503 Colonial Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70806