

FOR RELEASE: August 22, 2000

Paul Addresses Victoria Lions Club *Promotes Health Care Plan for Children*

Victoria, TX - On Monday afternoon, Congressman Ron Paul spoke to the Victoria Lion's Club about his current legislation designed to help working families afford health care for their children. Paul said his "Family Health Tax Cut Act" (HR 4799) will especially help lower-income families whose employers do not provide them with health insurance. "Many working families must struggle to pay for their medical bills when their employers do not provide them with insurance," said Paul. "This burden is especially heavy on parents whose children suffer with a serious medical condition, such as cancer or a physical disability, which requires specialized health care. The 'Family Health Tax Cut Act' will go a long way toward helping those families provide adequate care for their children." The "Family Health Tax Cut Act" provides parents with a tax credit of up to \$500 annually for the health care expenses of dependent children. If a child has a disability, terminal disease, cancer, or any other condition requiring long-term or specialized care, parents would receive a tax credit of up to \$3,000 a year. According to research on the effects of the "Family Health Tax Cut Act", the tax credit would affect joint filers with incomes slightly above \$18,000 a year and single income filers with incomes slightly above \$15,000 per year. "Under my bill, a struggling single mother with an asthmatic child would at last be able to provide for her child's needs, while a working family will not have to worry about how they will pay the bills if one of their children requires lengthy hospitalization," said Paul. "It would also relieve our nation's already overcrowded emergency room facilities, which currently have to provide routine care for people who otherwise cannot afford any other alternative." "Many hard-working Americans cannot provide health care for their children because Congress won't give individuals the same deduction for health care costs that it grants to businesses," Paul concluded. "The 'Family Health Tax Cut Act' is designed to address this inequity. This is a common sense way to provide low-income parents tax relief in order to help them better meet their children's medical expenses."

