

GOOD MORNING EVERYONE.

THIS SUMMER MARKS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT THAT ESTABLISHED THE MEDICARE AND MEDICAID PROGRAMS.

ON JULY 30, 1965, PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON SIGNED LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH MEDICARE FOR THE ELDERLY AND MEDICAID FOR LOW-INCOME ADULTS, CHILDREN, PREGNANT WOMEN, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

THOUGH MEDICARE AND MEDICAID STARTED AS BASIC HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS FOR AMERICANS, THE PROGRAMS HAVE EVOLVED OVER THE YEARS TO PROVIDE MORE AMERICANS WITH IMPROVED ACCESS TO QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE COVERAGE.

THESE PROGRAMS HAVE TRANSFORMED THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE IN THE UNITED STATES, AND OF COURSE, HERE IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MEDICARE AND MEDICAID PROVIDES AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO REFLECT ON THE

CRITICAL ROLE THESE PROGRAMS HAVE PLAYED IN PROTECTING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF MILLIONS OF FAMILIES AND HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR THEM TO BE PRESERVED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

