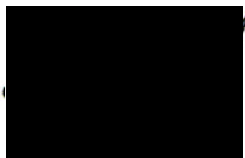


**Committee on Energy and Commerce**  
**U.S. House of Representatives**  
Witness Disclosure Requirement - "Truth in Testimony"  
Required by House Rule XI, Clause 2(g)(5)

<b>1. Your Name:</b> Rick W. Merrill		
<b>2. Your Title:</b> President & CEO / Chairman		
<b>3. The Entity(ies) You are Representing:</b> Cook Children's Health Care System / Children's Hospital Association		
<b>4. Are you testifying on behalf of the Federal, or a State or local government entity?</b>	Yes	No X
<b>5. Please list any Federal grants or contracts, or contracts or payments originating with a foreign government, that you or the entity(ies) you represent have received on or after January 1, 2015. Only grants, contracts, or payments related to the subject matter of the hearing must be listed.</b>  N/A		
<b>6. Please attach your curriculum vitae to your completed disclosure form.</b>		

Signature:



Date:

August 31, 2018

## ***Rick W. Merrill***

As president and CEO of Cook Children's Health Care System since 2007, Mr. Merrill has led the Fort Worth-based organization at a time of unprecedented growth, including the historic expansion of Cook Children's Medical Center, which nearly tripled the size of its campus in response to the growing need for its services. Under Merrill's leadership, Cook Children's began a new era by streamlining its mission and vision into a *Promise* to improve the health of every child in the region through the prevention and treatment of illness, disease and injury.

As a not-for-profit, nationally-recognized pediatric integrated healthcare organization, Cook Children's is comprised of eight entities – a Medical Center, Physician Network, Home Health company, Northeast Hospital, Pediatric Surgery Center, Health Plan, Health Services, Inc., and Health Foundation. With more than 1.5 million patient encounters per year, Cook Children's growing reputation draws patients from near and far. Patients travel across Texas and come to us from around the United States, as well as internationally, to receive life-saving pediatric care at Cook Children's.

A graduate of Texas Tech University, Mr. Merrill received his Master of Science degree in Health Care Administration in 1984 from Trinity University in San Antonio. For more than thirty years, Merrill has served in leadership roles in large academic/university-based health care systems, including both for-profit and not-for profit health care facilities.

Mr. Merrill actively serves on numerous national, state and community advisory boards, including the Children's Hospital Association (Chair), Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, Children's Hospitals' Solutions for Patient Safety (a collaborative of 120 children's hospitals), the Children's Hospital Association of Texas (past Chair), Texas Hospital Association, Texas Association of Voluntary Hospitals (past Chair), the Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council (past Chair) and All Saints Episcopal School (past Chair).

Married for more than 30 years, Mr. Merrill and his wife have two daughters.