Gov. Perry Welcomes 1,400 Jobs to Texas

Applauds Medtronic's Decision to Locate Diabetes Division in Texas

*Note - Gov. Perry frequently departs from prepared remarks.

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Thank you, Randy [Cain, chair, San Antonio EDC] for that introduction and congratulations on today's remarkable news.

Mayor [Phil] Hardberger, I know you would say that every day is a good day in San Antonio, but I'd have to insist that today is extra special.

Everywhere we turn today, whether in the media, or conversations at the dinner table, tough times in the global economy are a recurring topic.

Times are tough, but they're not near as tough in Texas as they are in a lot of other places, thanks to the core strength of our economy, built on our low taxes, fair legal system and predictable regulatory climate.

Those factors, combined with our quality workforce and a $6 million investment from the Texas Enterprise Fund, make it possible for us to make today's announcement about more jobs for Texas.

I am here today to officially announce that the Medtronic Corporation is bringing 1,400 jobs and $23 million in capital investment to Texas.

By relocating and expanding their diabetes division in San Antonio, I believe that Medtronic is sending a clear message, one that I've been repeating to anyone who will listen: Texas is still the best place on Earth to live, work and raise a family.

Medtronic is a worldwide leader in medical technology, sustaining a culture of innovation and discovery, yielding high-tech devices that improve and save lives.

In that regard, they are a perfect fit for Texas, a place where our citizens approved $3 billion to fight cancer, where our universities are a hotbed of cutting edge research, and our biotechnology industry is growing to maturity.

You also get a state that has invested more than $377 million in job creation through our Enterprise Fund, leading to more than 54,000 jobs and drawing more than $14 billion in capital investment.

I want to use this opportunity to speak directly to employers across our country that are being squeezed by increasing taxes, irrational regulation and frivolous lawsuits. My message can be summed up in three words: come to Texas.

Here you will find a climate that celebrates innovation, welcomes job creation and encourages investment. Here you will find great cities like San Antonio with educated workers, accessible infrastructure and an unmatched quality of life. Here you will find opportunity.

On behalf of the state of Texas, I want to thank the local team here in San Antonio who worked so hard to make this happen, and I want to thank Medtronics for taking this important step.

I know you did your research as you weighed this decision, but no spreadsheet can indicate what you really get when you move to Texas.

Sure, you get great economic support, unbeatable weather and proximity to markets all over the world, but, most of all, you get Texans, and there is no
better ingredient for success.

Thank you all for being here today and thank you, Medtronic, for choosing Texas. I am firmly convinced you will look back on this as one of the smartest decisions you've ever made.