

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 170

BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create a study committee to evaluate Louisiana's statewide system of healthcare delivery, and to require the committee to report findings and recommendations concerning this system to the legislature.

WHEREAS, significant changes in healthcare delivery and financing in this state have occurred over a brief span of time in the past several years; and

WHEREAS, these changes include the implementation of federally instituted reforms since 2010 that are reshaping the way many Americans access and finance their health care; the establishment in 2011 and rapid expansion since that time of a managed care system within Louisiana's medical assistance program; and the privatization of nine of the ten hospitals comprising the state's safety net hospital system since 2012; and

WHEREAS, the legislature has received conflicting information during this period concerning whether overall access to healthcare in this state is expanding or diminishing, and whether the level of care now available to Louisiana citizens is adequate or insufficient, resulting from the transformation of our state's healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, as evidenced by the passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 111 of the 2012 Regular Session calling for annual reporting on measures which could improve Louisiana's low standing in the annual "America's Health Rankings" report, and by numerous other legislative instruments calling for studies and reports on disease prevention and treatment and other means of improving health outcomes, the legislature has an ongoing and deep concern for the health status and well-being of the people of this state; and

WHEREAS, to date, no objective evaluation has been conducted on the statewide impact of the ongoing healthcare system transformation Louisiana is experiencing; and

WHEREAS, empirical research findings of a study of this type would be an invaluable resource for informing efforts by the legislature to craft policies that support the access to and quality of health care that the citizens of our state deserve.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create a study committee to evaluate Louisiana's statewide system of healthcare delivery.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study committee shall be composed of the following members:

(1) The chancellor of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans or his designee.

(2) The chancellor of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport or his designee.

(3) The dean of the Southern University Nelson Mandela School of Public Policy or his designee.

(4) One member representing the bureau of health services financing of the Department of Health and Hospitals, appointed by the secretary of the department.

(5) One member representing the office of public health of the Department of Health and Hospitals, appointed by the secretary of the department.

(6) The commissioner of insurance or his designee.

(7) The chief executive officer of the Louisiana Association of Health Plans or his designee.

(8) The chief executive officer of the Louisiana State Medical Society or his designee.

(9) The president of the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians or his designee.

(10) The executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care Association or his designee.

(11) The executive director of the Louisiana State Nurses Association or his designee.

(12) The president and chief executive officer of the Louisiana Hospital Association or his designee.

(13) The executive director of the Rural Hospital Coalition, Inc., or his designee.

(14) One member representing Navigators for a Healthy Louisiana.

(15) The president of the Louisiana Center for Health Equity or his designee.

(16) One member representing the Campaign for Healthcare for Everyone - Louisiana.

(17) The executive director of the Advocacy Center or his designee.

(18) The executive director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association or his designee.

(19) Six healthcare consumer advocates in the number of one advocate apiece from each congressional district of Louisiana, appointed by the president of the Louisiana Center for Health Equity.

(20) The director of the Louisiana State University Public Policy Research Lab or his designee.

(21) The director of the Louisiana Budget Project or his designee.

(22) The dean of the Tulane University School of Medicine or his designee.

(23) The president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners or his designee.

(24) The chairperson of Medicine Louisiana or his designee.

(25) The chairperson of the Louisiana Behavioral Health Advisory Council or his designee.

(26) One member representing the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in evaluating Louisiana's healthcare system, the study committee shall examine issues related to statewide health services availability, delivery, quality, and financing that include, without limitation, the following:

(1) The financial condition of the state's healthcare delivery system.

(2) Comparative access to healthcare by Louisianians of different income levels, demographic groups, and geographic locations.

(3) Stability and continuity of care.

(4) Health system capacity, including but not limited to the capacity of the state's healthcare workforce.

(5) Healthcare quality and health outcomes, with a focus on any innovations and best practices which may improve these factors.

(6) The degree to which healthcare delivery is people-centered and consumer-oriented.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the Louisiana Center for Health Equity shall take such actions as are necessary to ensure that the study committee convenes on or before August 1, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at its initial meeting, the study committee members shall elect a chairperson, and shall adopt rules of procedure and any other policies as may be necessary to facilitate the work of the group.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before February 1, 2016, the study committee shall submit to the legislature a report of its progress and preliminary findings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before August 1, 2016, the study committee shall submit to the legislature a final report comprising an evaluation of Louisiana's system of healthcare delivery and recommendations for improving the state's healthcare system such that it can better meet the needs of Louisiana citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the chancellor of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans, the chancellor of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport, the dean of the Southern University Nelson Mandela School of Public Policy, the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, the commissioner of insurance, the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Association of Health Plans, the chief executive officer of the Louisiana State Medical Society, the president of the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians, the executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care Association, the executive director of the Louisiana State Nurses Association, the president and chief executive officer of the Louisiana Hospital Association, the executive director of the Rural Hospital Coalition, Inc., the director of Navigators for a Healthy Louisiana, the president of the Louisiana Center for Health Equity, the director of the Campaign for Healthcare for Everyone - Louisiana, the executive director of the Advocacy Center, the executive director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association, the director of the Louisiana State University Public Policy Research Lab, the director of the Louisiana Budget Project, the dean of the Tulane

University School of Medicine, the president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners, the chairperson of Medicine Louisiana, the chairperson of the Louisiana Behavioral Health Advisory Council, and the executive director of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE