
DIGEST

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HB 158 Reengrossed

2015 Regular Session

Hoffmann

Abstract: Requires the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to publish information on its website concerning services of the Smoking Cessation Trust, and requires the department to coordinate certain health programs with those offered by the trust.

Proposed law provides that its purpose is to increase awareness of and access to smoking cessation programs and services available in La.

Proposed law recognizes the Smoking Cessation Trust as the organization of that name which incorporated in La. pursuant to the judgment rendered in *Scott v. American Tobacco Co., Inc.* for the purpose of operating the smoking cessation program called for in that judgment.

Proposed law requires the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH) to establish and maintain on its website a link to the website of the Smoking Cessation Trust, along with summary information on programs and services offered by the trust. Provides that DHH may feature the link to the website and information on programs and services of the trust on any web page it maintains for any program or office, if the link and information are posted in a conspicuous location.

Proposed law authorizes the secretary of DHH to coordinate, to the extent he deems practical and appropriate, the programs of the office of public health, the Medicaid coordinated care network program, and any other program of the department with the programs offered by the Smoking Cessation Trust.

Proposed law requires that on or before Jan. 1, annually, the secretary of DHH engage with the executive director of the Smoking Cessation Trust to evaluate means and best practices for promoting smoking cessation, and to identify opportunities for increasing access to smoking cessation programs and services available in this state.

Proposed law terminates on Jan. 1, 2022.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 40:1300.431-1300.435)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Modify a legislative finding relative to smoking to clarify that the reference is to cigarette smoking.
2. Delete a legislative finding indicating that, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, smoking-related diseases claim over 480,000 American lives each year, a figure that includes over 40,000 deaths annually resulting from secondhand smoke exposure.
3. Make technical changes.