

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 161

BY SENATOR CARTER

HEALTH SERVICES. Requests a study of the delivery of emergency medical services.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, bureau of emergency medical  
3 services, to convene a working group to study the delivery of 911 emergency  
4 medical services throughout the state and report findings and recommendations  
5 regarding 911 emergency call takers to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare  
6 on or before February 1, 2019.

7 WHEREAS, emergency medical services represent the combined efforts of several  
8 professionals and agencies to provide pre-hospital emergency care to the sick and injured;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, emergency medical services constitute the difference between life and  
11 death for thousands of Louisiana citizens each day; and

12 WHEREAS, an individual's entry into the emergency medical services system is  
13 most often through placement of a 911 emergency call; and

14 WHEREAS, 911 created the need for fire, police, and medical emergency responders  
15 to function with a degree of uniformity that was not previously in existence; and

16 WHEREAS, 911 in Louisiana is a parish-based system in which all serve a similar  
17 purpose, but no two systems are identical; and

18 WHEREAS, when a person dials 911, the call is routed to a pre-determined location

1 and answered by a call taker who determines the nature of the emergency and either handles  
2 the request himself or routes it to the appropriate public safety agency; and

3 WHEREAS, who performs the call-taker function and what happens after they  
4 initiate discussion with the caller varies widely across the state.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
6 does hereby request the Louisiana Department of Health, bureau of emergency medical  
7 services, to convene a working group to study the delivery of 911 emergency medical  
8 services throughout the state and report findings and recommendations regarding 911  
9 emergency call takers to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on or before  
10 February 1, 2019.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group shall consist of the following:

12 (1) The executive director of the bureau of emergency medical services, within the  
13 Louisiana Department of Health, who shall serve as the chair of the working group.

14 (2) The executive director of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network, or his  
15 designee.

16 (3) The state fire marshal, or his designee.

17 (4) The superintendent of the Louisiana State Police, or his designee.

18 (5) The director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency  
19 Preparedness, or his designee.

20 (6) The executive director of the Louisiana Municipal Association, or his designee.

21 (7) The executive director of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association, or his designee.

22 (8) The executive director of the Louisiana Firefighter's Association, or his designee.

23 (9) The executive director of the Louisiana Ambulance Alliance, or his designee.

24 (10) The executive director of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Emergency  
25 Number Association, or his designee.

26 (11) The executive director of the Louisiana Chapter of the Association of Public  
27 Safety Communication Officials, or his designee.

28 (12) The executive director of the Louisiana Wireless Information Network, or his  
29 designee.

30 (13) The director of the Greater Southeast Affiliate of the American Heart

1 Association, or his designee.

2 (14) One member representing ambulance service providers in a rural area appointed  
3 by the Louisiana Ambulance Alliance.

4 (15) One member representing ambulance service providers in an urban area  
5 appointed by the Louisiana Ambulance Alliance.

6 (16) One member appointed by the chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and  
7 Welfare.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group shall be convened by the  
9 executive director of the bureau of emergency medical services, within the Louisiana  
10 Department of Health, on or before September 1, 2018.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group shall study and make  
12 recommendations to the legislature on the organization, funding, structure, and qualifications  
13 of 911 emergency call takers in Louisiana, including any recommendation for state licensure  
14 and regulation of 911 call takers.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
16 bureau of emergency medical services, within the Louisiana Department of Health,  
17 Louisiana Emergency Response Network, State Fire Marshal, Louisiana State Police,  
18 Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, Louisiana Municipal  
19 Association, Louisiana Sheriff's Association, Louisiana Firefighter's Association, Louisiana  
20 Ambulance Alliance, Louisiana Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association,  
21 Louisiana Chapter of the Association of Public Safety Communication Officials, Louisiana  
22 Wireless Information Network, and the American Heart Association.

---

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

---

SR 161 Original

DIGEST  
2018 Regular Session

Carter

Requests the Louisiana Department of Health, bureau of emergency medical services, to convene a working group to study the delivery of 911 emergency medical services throughout the state and report findings and recommendations regarding 911 emergency call takers to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on or before February 1, 2019.