

Regular Session, 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 80

BY SENATOR MOUNT

HEALTH CARE. Creates the Louisiana Alzheimer's Disease Task Force.

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create the Louisiana Alzheimer's Disease Task Force to study and make recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana concerning the current and future impact of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias on Louisiana citizens.

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is a progressive, fatal disease of the brain that destroys mental and physical functions, that is not a part of normal aging and for which there is no known cure; and

WHEREAS, every seventy-one seconds someone in America develops Alzheimer's disease, and an estimated five million two hundred thousand Americans now live with the disease; and

WHEREAS, it has been estimated that by mid-century, someone will develop Alzheimer's every thirty-three seconds; and

WHEREAS, between 2000 and 2010, Louisiana will have experienced a fourteen per centum growth rate of people with this devastating disease, and Louisiana will soon have eighty-three thousand citizens diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create the Louisiana Alzheimer's Disease Task Force to assess, evaluate, and review the impact on Louisiana citizens of Alzheimer's disease.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be comprised of the
2 following members:

3 (1) The chairman of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee, or his designee.

4 (2) The chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Health and Welfare,
5 or his designee.

6 (3) One person who suffers from Alzheimer's disease appointed by the governor.

7 (4) One person who serves as a care giver to a person with Alzheimer's disease
8 appointed by the governor.

9 (5) One person representing the nursing facility industry appointed by the Louisiana
10 Nursing Home Association.

11 (6) One person representing the assisted living industry appointed by the Louisiana
12 Assisted Living Association.

13 (7) One person representing the adult day services industry appointed by Louisiana
14 Adult Day Health Care Association.

15 (8) One person representing the home health care industry appointed by Louisiana
16 Home Care Association.

17 (9) One person representing the medical care provider community appointed by the
18 Louisiana Geriatric Society.

19 (10) One person representing patient care assistants appointed by the Community and
20 Residential Services Association.

21 (11) One person who engages in research related to Alzheimer's disease appointed
22 by the Alzheimer's Association.

23 (12) One person representing and appointed by the AARP.

24 (13) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, or his designee.

25 (14) The secretary of the Department of Social Services, or his designee.

26 (15) The assistant secretary of the office of aging and adult services within the
27 Department of Health and Hospitals, or his designee.

28 (16) The assistant secretary of the office for citizens with developmental disabilities
29 within the Department of Health and Hospitals, or his designee.

30 (17) The Medicaid director within the Department of Health and Hospitals, or his

1 designee.

2 (18) One person representing and appointed by the Program for All Inclusive Care
3 of the Elderly of Louisiana.

4 (19) One member representing law enforcement appointed by the secretary of the
5 Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

6 (20) One person representing and appointed by the Alzheimer's Association.

7 (21) The executive director of the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs, or his
8 designee.

9 (22) One person representing and appointed by The Advocacy Center.

10 (23) One person representing and appointed by the Louisiana and Mississippi
11 Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

12 (24) The assistant secretary of the office of mental health within the Department of
13 Health and Hospitals, or his designee.

14 (25) One person representing and appointed by Gulf States Homes and Services for
15 the Aging.

16 (26) One person representing the Area Agency on Aging and appointed by the
17 executive director of the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs.

18 (27) The director of the Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health in the office of the
19 secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Alzheimer's Disease Task Force
21 shall include an examination of the following in its assessment and recommendations:

22 (1) Trends in the state Alzheimer's population and needs, including the changing
23 population with dementia, the state's role in long-term care, family caregiver support,
24 assistance to persons with early-stage and early onset of Alzheimer's disease, and the state
25 policy regarding persons with Alzheimer's disease and developmental disabilities.

26 (2) The type, cost and availability of dementia services.

27 (3) Dementia-specific training requirements for those working with persons with
28 dementia.

29 (4) The quality care measures for providers who deliver services to persons with
30 Alzheimer's disease.

1 (5) The capacity of public safety and law enforcement to respond to persons with
2 Alzheimer's disease.

3 (6) The availability of home and community-based resources for persons with
4 Alzheimer's disease and respite care to assist families.

5 (7) The inventory of long-term care dementia care units.

6 (8) The adequacy and appropriateness of geriatric-psychiatric units for persons with
7 behavior disorders associated with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia.

8 (9) Assisted living options for persons with dementia.

9 (10) The state support of Alzheimer's disease research through Louisiana universities
10 and other resources.

11 (11) The needed state policies or resources, including but not limited to directions
12 for the provision of clear and coordinated services and supports to persons and families
13 living with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and strategies to address any identified
14 gaps in services.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by July 1, 2008, the secretary of the Department
16 of Health and Hospitals, or his designee, shall convene the Louisiana Alzheimer's Disease
17 Task Force, and the Department of Health and Hospitals shall provide the necessary facilities
18 and administrative support which are necessary.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Alzheimer's Disease Task Force
20 shall hold public meetings and utilize technological means, such as web casts, to gather
21 feedback on the recommendations from the persons and families affected by Alzheimer's
22 disease and from the general public.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this task force shall serve
24 without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be
25 individually entitled as members of the constituent organizations.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall elect one
27 member to serve as chairman and one member to serve vice-chairman of the task force.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Alzheimer's Disease Task Force
29 shall submit a report of its findings and date-specific recommendations to the Senate and
30 House committees on health and welfare and to the governor in the form of a State

1 Alzheimer's Plan prior to July 1, 2009.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Alzheimer's Disease Task Force
3 shall terminate upon the delivery of the State Alzheimer's Plan to the House and Senate
4 committees on health and welfare or on July 1, 2009, whichever occurs earlier.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each
6 official or organization responsible for serving on the task force or selecting a person to
7 serve on the task force.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Greg Waddell.

DIGEST

Mount

SCR No.

Creates the Louisiana Alzheimer's Disease Task Force to study and make recommendations to the legislature concerning the current and future impact of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias on Louisiana citizens. Provides for the membership of the task force and for a report of its findings and date-specific recommendations to the Senate and House committees on health and welfare and to the governor in the form of a State Alzheimer's Plan prior to July 1, 2009.