

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 170

BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

HEALTH SERVICES: Creates a study committee to evaluate and make recommendations concerning Louisiana's system of healthcare delivery

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 (6) The commissioner of insurance or his designee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 (17) The executive director of the Community and Residential Services Association
9 of Louisiana or his designee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 (3) Stability and continuity of care.

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

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

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

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

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

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as an independent not-for-profit organization,
8 the Louisiana Center for Health Equity may require resources in order to convene the study
9 committee, facilitate its proceedings, and publish the required reports of findings; therefore,
10 the Louisiana Center for Health Equity is hereby authorized to receive and expend any funds
11 as may be necessary to carry out the purposes set forth in this Resolution, including but not
12 limited to funding provided by contract or other agreement with the Department of Health
13 and Hospitals; funds appropriated by the legislature, including any appropriation of federal
14 funds; and any public or private donations, gifts, or grants from governmental sources,
15 individuals, corporations, nonprofit organizations, or other business entities.

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

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

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
23 chancellor of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans, the
24 chancellor of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport, the dean of
25 the Southern University Nelson Mandela School of Public Policy, the secretary of the
26 Department of Health and Hospitals, the commissioner of insurance, the chief executive
27 officer of the Louisiana Association of Health Plans, the chief executive officer of the
28 Louisiana State Medical Society, the president of the Louisiana Academy of Family
29 Physicians, the executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care Association, the executive
30 director of the Louisiana State Nurses Association, the president and chief executive officer

1 of the Louisiana Hospital Association, the executive director of the Rural Hospital Coalition,
2 Inc., the director of Navigators for a Healthy Louisiana, the president of the Louisiana
3 Center for Health Equity, the director of the Campaign for Healthcare for Everyone -
4 Louisiana, the executive director of the Community and Residential Services Association
5 of Louisiana, the executive director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association, and the
6 director of the Louisiana State University Public Policy Research Lab.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 170 Original

2015 Regular Session

Smith

Creates a 25-member study committee to evaluate Louisiana's statewide system of healthcare delivery and requires the committee to report findings and recommendations to the legislature.