HLS 17RS-265 ORIGINAL

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 83

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

NURSES/REGISTERED: Requests a study of means by which to facilitate care by Louisiana-licensed nurses for Louisiana evacuees in other states

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request the Louisiana State Board of Nursing to study limited means by which
3	to facilitate care by Louisiana-licensed nurses for Louisiana disaster evacuees in
4	other states and to report findings of the study to the legislative committees on health
5	and welfare.
6	WHEREAS, natural disasters are an unfortunate fact of life in Louisiana; and
7	WHEREAS, according to data on disaster declarations by county in the United
8	States, eight Louisiana parishes are among the ten county-level political subdivisions with
9	the most declared hurricane disasters since 1964, when the federal government began
10	tracking this data; and
11	WHEREAS, Louisiana is highly susceptible not only to hurricanes, but also to
12	tornadoes and flooding, with the two major flood events this state experienced in 2016 being
13	particularly severe; and
14	WHEREAS, natural disasters in Louisiana frequently necessitate mass evacuations
15	of people from their homes and communities; and
16	WHEREAS, of particular concern during and after an evacuation is the care of
17	persons who are medically fragile or have other special needs; and
18	WHEREAS, Louisiana nurses are the primary healthcare providers for many such
19	persons, and provide extensive care to those persons in both institutional and home- and
20	community-based settings throughout our state; and

1	WHEREAS, when Louisiana patients are evacuated to other states due to a natural
2	disaster or other emergency, the nurses who have been providing care to those patients are
3	generally prohibited from doing so at those out-of-state sites by the laws of the states in
4	which the sites are located; and
5	WHEREAS, emergency preparedness is a major factor in our state's resilience during
6	and after natural disasters; and
7	WHEREAS, having limited agreements in place with other states whereby Louisiana
8	nurses may treat evacuated Louisiana patients would be an additional element of
9	preparedness that would benefit the people of our state.
10	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
11	urge and request the Louisiana State Board of Nursing to study limited means by which to
12	facilitate care by Louisiana-licensed nurses for Louisiana disaster evacuees in other states.
13	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study requested by this Resolution is limited
14	to special authorizations relative to nurse licensure during disaster periods only; therefore,
15	the study shall exclude examination of the nurse licensure compact promoted by the National
16	Council of State Boards of Nursing as a means through which to facilitate out-of-state
17	nursing care by Louisiana-licensed nurses during such periods.
18	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Board of Nursing shall
19	develop a written report of findings of the study requested by this Resolution, and shall
20	submit the report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee
21	on Health and Welfare no later than sixty days prior to the convening of the 2018 Regular
22	Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.
23	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
24	executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing.

## **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)]

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2017 Regular Session

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Urges and requests the La. State Board of Nursing to study limited means by which to facilitate care by La.-licensed nurses for La. disaster evacuees in other states, and to report HLS 17RS-265

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findings of the study to the legislative committees on health and welfare no later than 60 days prior to the convening of the 2018 R.S.