HLS 18RS-717 ENGROSSED

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 198

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BY REPRESENTATIVE SIMON

FUNDS/FUNDING: Provides relative to distribution of funding from the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund

AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 46:2635(A), relative to the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord 3 Injury Trust Fund; to provide for the distribution of funding; to ensure that the fund 4 is used as a funding source of last resort; to specify that Medicare and Medicaid 5 sources shall be expended before using monies in the fund; and to provide for related 6 matters. 7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 8 Section 1. R.S. 46:2635(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: 9 §2635. Expenditures 10 A. Except as provided in R.S. 46:2633(D)(2), money in the trust fund shall 11 be distributed for the sole purpose of funding the cost of care or supportive services 12 for traumatic head and spinal cord injury, including the administrative costs 13 attributable to services provided by the trust fund program. The fund shall be 14 considered as a source of last resort after private and governmental Medicare and 15 Medicaid sources have been expended for Louisiana citizens. 16 17 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not 18 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature 19 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

- 1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
- 2 effective on the day following such approval.

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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Simon

Abstract: Requires that the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund is used as a fund of last resort following the exhaustion of Medicare and Medicaid funding.

<u>Present law</u> establishes the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund to provide citizens who survive traumatic head or spinal cord injuries a source of funds for services enabling them to return to a reasonable level of functioning and independent living.

<u>Present law</u> provides that money in the fund be distributed as a source of last resort after the use of all available private and governmental funds.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> provision that requires the fund be used as a fund of last resort but deletes reference to private and governmental funds to specify that the fund shall be used after Medicare and Medicaid sources have been exhausted.

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

(Amends R.S. 46:2635(A))