

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 64

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUSTIN MILLER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, the Louisiana Emergency Medical Services Certification Commission, and the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Task Force to work in collaboration through the Emergency Medical Services Professional Working Group to meet certain goals relative to emergency medical services and to make a report to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

WHEREAS, it is of the utmost importance that this state foster excellence in emergency services and emergency services practitioners who are able to work collaboratively in order to successfully provide emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate a strong and vibrant emergency medical services system, it is imperative that clear and easily understandable regulations exist and an efficient licensing structure governing the emergency medical services system and practice is in place; and

WHEREAS, in enacting R.S. 40:1131 et seq., the legislature found that the bureau of emergency medical services of the office of public health of the Louisiana Department of Health constitutes an invaluable part of Louisiana's healthcare delivery system; and

WHEREAS, with emergency services challenges in the state only increasing, the emergency medical system must move away from traditional structures and develop integrated and collaborative service delivery methods which seek to maximize efficiency in service delivery while maintaining the highest degree of competency by which emergency medical services are provided; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that solutions to these challenges be developed through a thoughtful and deliberative process.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, the Louisiana Emergency Medical Services Certification Commission, and the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Task Force to work in collaboration through the Emergency Medical Services Professional Working Group to meet certain goals and to make a report to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Emergency Medical Services Professional Working Group is hereby created and shall be composed of the following members who shall be appointed no later than July 15, 2018:

(1) The chairperson of the Emergency Medical Services Certification Commission of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.

(2) The chairperson of the Emergency Medical Services Task Force of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.

(3) The executive director of the Louisiana Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians or his designee.

(4) The chief executive officer of the Louisiana Ambulance Alliance or his designee.

(5) The president of the Louisiana Association of Registered Emergency Medical Technicians or his designee who is, at a minimum, a state-certified emergency medical technician.

(6) The president of the Professional Fire Fighters Association of Louisiana or his designee.

(7) The president of the Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association or his designee.

(8) One state credentialed educator, who is a Louisiana-certified instructor, nominated by the Louisiana Society of EMS Educators.

(9) The president of the Louisiana State Firemen's Association or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following professionals may appoint one representative each to the working group to act exclusively in an advisory capacity:

(1) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

(2) The state fire marshal.

(3) The director of the bureau of emergency medical services of the office of public health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the initial meeting of the working group shall be held no later than August 15, 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group shall provide for the manner and frequency of its meetings and for all other administrative matters as are necessary in order to function as a working group.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of the working group shall be to review, discuss, and recommend the most appropriate location and statutory structure for the licensure of emergency medical personnel, specifically addressing whether the licensing and disciplinary functions should remain with the Louisiana Department of Health or be transferred to an independent regulatory board or other more appropriate venue as identified by the working group.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Emergency Medical Services Professional Working Group shall submit a written report of its conclusions and recommendations to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare on or before February 28, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each member of the Emergency Medical Services Professional Working Group.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE