

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 77 (HB 240)

2020 Regular Session

Hughes

Existing law provides that the La. Dept. of Health (LDH), through the office for citizens with developmental disabilities and the office of aging and adult services is authorized to monitor and review deaths of persons receiving services through its offices.

New law adds that the office of behavioral health shall have the authority to monitor and review deaths of persons receiving services through its office.

Existing law provides for the following duties of LDH through the office for citizens with developmental disabilities and the office of aging and adult services:

- (1) In each death reviewed, the offices shall obtain data and records relevant to the cause of death from providers, including health care providers, as well.
- (2) Shall identify patterns and systemic problems to determine what changes, if any, should be in service delivery.

New law adds that the office of behavioral health shall follow the duties in existing law in reviewing each death of persons receiving services through its office.

Existing law provides that a healthcare provider shall have the meaning as defined in existing law, R.S. 13:3734(A)(1). Further provides that "office" shall mean the office for citizens with developmental disabilities or the office of aging and adult services.

New law adds that a healthcare provider shall also mean a licensed mental health professional as defined in existing law, R.S. 40:2153, and other agencies who are licensed or certified by LDH to deliver healthcare or related services. Further provides that "office" shall mean the office for citizens with developmental disabilities, the office of behavioral health, or the office of aging and adult services.

Existing law provides that the office for citizens with developmental disabilities and the office of aging and adult services are authorized to access death certificates in the custody of the department, autopsy reports, and records of all service providers, including medical records in the custody of healthcare providers, of persons being served through the offices at the time of death.

New law provides that the office for citizens with developmental disabilities, the office of behavioral health, and the office of aging and adult services are also authorized to access coroner reports along with other reports provided for in existing law.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 5, 2020).

(Amends R.S. 40:2020(A), (B)(2) and (3), (C)(intro. para.) and (D)(1))