HLS 21RS-410 ORIGINAL

2021 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

BY REPRESENTATIVES HUGHES AND DUPLESSIS

HEALTH/LDH: Requests a study by the La. Department of Health concerning the impact of COVID-19 on the public sector workforce of this state

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to study the impact of COVID-19
3	on the public sector workforce of this state and to report findings of the study to the
4	legislature.
5	WHEREAS, the ongoing global outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel
6	coronavirus and named "coronavirus disease 2019", abbreviated as "COVID-19", has been
7	officially recognized as a pandemic since March 11, 2020; and
8	WHEREAS, COVID-19 has impacted our state, our nation, and the world in
9	countless unprecedented ways; and
0	WHEREAS, the number of deaths from COVID-19 in the United States surpassed
1	five hundred thousand in February of 2021; and
12	WHEREAS, in March of 2021, the number of Louisianans who lost their lives to
13	COVID-19 eclipsed ten thousand; and
4	WHEREAS, many members of the public sector workforce of this state have been
15	either on the front lines of combating COVID-19 or put at risk of contracting COVID-19
16	through their jobs; or, in the case of healthcare workers, both; and
17	WHEREAS, House Bill No. 71 of the 2020 First Extraordinary Session proposed to
18	establish a death benefit for survivors of certain employees of public healthcare facilities
19	who died of COVID-19; and
20	WHEREAS, this legislation gained broad support but was ultimately limited by a
21	lack of data concerning the impact of COVID-19 on the public sector workforce that was

1 necessary to determine the cost associated with the bill, which advanced from the House to 2 the Senate but did not achieve final passage; and 3 WHEREAS, it is the sense of the legislature that the healthcare workers of our state, 4 whether they be public sector or private sector employees, have been called upon to do the hardest work of all in the COVID-19 pandemic, and that these workers have shown 5 6 incredible bravery in doing their jobs; and 7 WHEREAS, though people who work in healthcare settings and other essential 8 workers can never be repaid in full for their sacrifices in helping us through these 9 extraordinary times, the legislature intends to find some means to recognize and honor the 10 courageous workers who cared for the sick in public healthcare settings during the COVID-11 19 pandemic and lost their own lives to that disease. 12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 13 urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to conduct a study of the impact of 14 COVID-19 on the public sector workforce of this state. 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study called for in this Resolution shall focus 16 particularly, though not exclusively, on the impact of COVID-19 on employees of public 17 healthcare facilities. 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall report 19 findings from the study called for in this Resolution to the legislature on or before February 20 1, 2022. 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 22 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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 16 Original

2021 Regular Session

Hughes

Requests the La. Department of Health to study the impact of COVID-19 on the public sector workforce of this state and to report findings of the study to the legislature on or before Feb. 1, 2022.