

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 96

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUSTIN MILLER

HEALTH: Creates a task force to study the wrongful association of physical and mental health problems

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To create a task force to study the wrongful association of physical and mental health  
3 problems for patients in Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization reported that the totality of one's health  
5 includes physical, mental, and social well-being; and

6 WHEREAS, a person's mental health can directly impact his physical being; and

7 WHEREAS, while mental health is a component of one's health overall, it is not a  
8 sole determinant; and

9 WHEREAS, medical misdiagnosis is a common occurrence in the healthcare world;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, according to the Huffington Post, bipolar disorder, post-traumatic stress  
12 disorder, depression, various eating disorders, and borderline personality disorder are often  
13 underdiagnosed or misdiagnosed; and

14 WHEREAS, in the absence of a sufficient diagnosis, such mental illnesses could  
15 result in physical ailments; and

16 WHEREAS, conversely, the misdiagnosis of a physical illness could result in mental  
17 trauma; and

18 WHEREAS, according to Healthline, roughly twelve million people in the United  
19 States have fallen victim to a medical diagnostic error; and

20 WHEREAS, an estimated forty to eighty thousand people die annually as a result of  
21 such misdiagnosis and any treatment plan associated with such diagnosis; and

1           WHEREAS, according to Healthline, minorities and women are more likely to be  
2 misdiagnosed; and

3           WHEREAS, there are many ways in which healthcare treatment facilities and  
4 learning institutions can aid in reducing the prevalence of physical and mental misdiagnosis;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, exploration of this subject matter on a state level can help medical  
7 professionals in Louisiana to improve health outcomes and reduce the risks associated with  
8 misdiagnosis; and

9           WHEREAS, it is imperative that the state of Louisiana acknowledge the severity of  
10 this issue and how it may impact women, people of color, rare disease patients, patients with  
11 co-occurring physical and mental health conditions, and other minority populations in the  
12 state.

13           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
14 create and provide for the Task Force on Physical and Mental Health to study the  
15 inappropriate association of physical and mental health issues for patients in Louisiana.

16           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall have all of the following  
17 functions:

- 18           (1) To collect data relative to the inappropriate association of physical and  
19 mental health issues for patients in this state.
- 20           (2) To study and review the data collected.
- 21           (3) To use such data to determine whether this state should propose legislation  
22 relative to the inappropriate association of physical and mental health issues  
23 for patients in this state.

24           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force established by this Resolution  
25 shall include representatives from the following organizations and professions:

- 26           (1) The Louisiana Department of Health.
- 27           (2) The Louisiana Department of Health office of behavioral health.
- 28           (3) The Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.
- 29           (4) The Louisiana Hospital Association.
- 30           (5) The Louisiana State Nurses Association.

1           (6)     The Louisiana State Medical Society.

2           (7)     The Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners.

3           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall  
4 provide staff support for the task force.

5           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before February 1, 2024, the task force  
6 shall submit to the House Committee on Health and Welfare, the Senate Committee on  
7 Health and Welfare, and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library a written report  
8 of its findings and recommendations.

9           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
10 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the assistant secretary of the Louisiana  
11 Department of Health office of behavioral health, the president of the Louisiana State Board  
12 of Medical Examiners, the president of the Louisiana Hospital Association, the president of  
13 the Louisiana State Nurses Association, the president of the Louisiana State Medical Society,  
14 and the president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners.

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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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HCR 96 Engrossed

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