

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 44

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOYD

HEALTH/CANCER: Urges the Louisiana Department of Health to develop a program for early breast cancer screening

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to change the recommended age
3 for breast cancer screening for beginning of mammograms to thirty years old.

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer and the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women in Louisiana, ranking fourth in the nation for female breast cancer death rate; and

7 WHEREAS, there were six hundred seventy-eight breast cancer deaths in 2024 in
8 Louisiana; and

9 WHEREAS, female breast cancer was the most common cancer and the second
10 leading cause of cancer death in Louisiana women from 2010 to 2014; and

WHEREAS, between 2010 and 2014, the average annual incidence rate of female breast cancer in Louisiana ranked twenty-ninth in the nation and the mortality rate was the second highest in the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, Louisiana averaged one hundred thirty cases of breast cancer per one
15 hundred thousand people, including all stages from 2017 to 2021; and

16 WHEREAS, the original recommended age for breast cancer screening was forty
17 years old and continuing through seventy-four years old; and

18 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) states early screening and
19 testing are associated with improved survival outcomes; and

20 WHEREAS, early detection significantly improves survival rates, with rates close
21 to one hundred percent when breast cancer is caught early; and

1 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health has a Louisiana Breast and Cervical
2 Health Program (LBCHP) that offers no-cost breast and cervical cancer screenings and
3 patient navigation services to women in Louisiana; and

4 WHEREAS, LBCHP was founded after Congress passed the Breast and Cervical
5 Cancer Mortality Prevention Act of 1990 and was designed to provide low-income,
6 uninsured, and underserved women access to timely breast and cervical cancer screening and
7 diagnostic services; and

8 WHEREAS, LBCHP is the largest program within Louisiana Cancer Prevention &
9 Control Programs (LCP) and has helped lower Louisiana's breast cancer death rate from the
10 highest in the United States, as well as raised the state's screening rate to the national
11 average; and

12 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health operates mobile cancer screening
13 units that travel to different locations throughout Louisiana to provide screenings to women
14 who may not have access to other facilities.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16 urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to recommend changing initial routine
17 mammographic breast cancer screening from age forty to age thirty.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request
19 the revision of breast cancer screening guidelines to recommend the initiation of routine
20 mammographic screening beginning at age thirty, in order to promote earlier detection and
21 improve outcomes for individuals at risk.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request
23 the Louisiana Department of Health to develop a program for early breast cancer screening
24 beginning at age thirty within the Louisiana Breast and Cervical Health Program.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Resolution be transmitted to the
26 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)]

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Requests the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to change the recommended starting age for routine mammography from forty to thirty years old for individuals at average risk.

Requests LDH to create a program within the Louisiana Breast and Cervical Health Program for early breast cancer screening to begin at age thirty.