

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 241

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREIBERG

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: Requests the Louisiana legislative auditor to publish an updated report of integrating assistance programs to achieve improved outcomes

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana legislative auditor to review assistance programs and
3 update the report issued on February 20, 2024, relative to the integration of such
4 programs for the purpose of achieving improved outcomes.

5 WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 100 of the 2023 Regular Session of the
6 Legislature urged and requested the Louisiana legislative auditor to conduct an appropriate
7 audit or evaluation of assistance programs in this state to evaluate participation, costs, and
8 outcomes for each program and identify areas for improved coordination, including the
9 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
10 Program Employment and Training initiative (SNAP E&T), Workforce Innovation and
11 Opportunity Act (WIOA), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF),
12 Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), unemployment insurance program, and any other
13 block grant and assistance programs the legislative auditor deemed necessary to include; and

14 WHEREAS, on February 20, 2024, the legislative auditor published an informational
15 report titled, "Coordination of Public Assistance and Workforce Development Programs";
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the report found that in 2023, Louisiana spent approximately three
18 billion, two hundred million dollars, primarily in federal dollars, on the following programs:

- 19 (1) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- 20 (2) SNAP Employment & Training Initiative (SNAP E&T)
- 21 (3) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance

1 (4) Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

2 (5) State Unemployment Insurance (UI) Program

3 (6) Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) Program

4 (7) Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP); and

5 WHEREAS, these programs served approximately one million individuals; and

6 WHEREAS, the report included the following findings and recommendations:

7 (1) "We found that while Louisiana has a unified WIOA state plan, it needs more
8 collaboration among agencies and stakeholders to put together a unified vision and plan
9 detailing how best to coordinate and administer public assistance and workforce
10 development programs. The governor and cabinet-level leadership would need to take the
11 lead in spurring improved coordination among these programs."

12 (2) "In addition, we found that other states have varying levels of coordination
13 among their agencies and programs. In Louisiana, potential strategies for improved
14 coordination could include increased public information and data and/or document sharing.
15 For example, several other states have websites that include a clear picture of available
16 services and how to apply."

17 (3) "We also found that measuring outcomes could help Louisiana determine which
18 programs and which contractors and providers are the most effective in meeting their goals.
19 Such information could help state leaders make more informed decisions about resources
20 and funding"; and

21 WHEREAS, on March 22, 2024, Governor Jeff Landry established through executive
22 order the Louisiana Workforce and Social Services (LA WASS) Reform Task Force to
23 "conduct research and collect data on state models for coordinating and fully integrating
24 workforce, social services, education, child care, and health care programs and develop
25 alternative approaches that Louisiana should consider to achieve improved outcomes"; and

26 WHEREAS, the LA WASS Reform Task Force published its report and
27 recommendations on February 7, 2025, and Governor Landry, his cabinet, and members of
28 the Louisiana Legislature have been diligently working with task force members and
29 stakeholders to develop a plan to improve the efficacy of workforce and social services
30 through the integration of such programs and improved service delivery focused on

1 supporting individuals to effectively transition from poverty and dependence to
2 independence and self-sufficiency; and

3 WHEREAS, legislation was introduced in the 2025 Regular Session of the
4 Legislature as House Bill No. 624 and House Bill No. 617 to implement the task force's
5 recommendations and make significant progress toward the vision of an effective "One
6 Door" model to benefit Louisianans in need and to boost the state's workforce and economic
7 competitiveness.

8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, if House Bill No. 624 and House Bill
9 No. 617 of the 2025 Regular Session are enacted, the House of Representatives of the
10 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the legislative auditor to conduct a
11 follow-up review of its February 20, 2024, report and publish an updated report no later than
12 thirty days prior to the 2027 Regular Session.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if House Bill No. 624 and House Bill No. 617
14 of the 2025 Regular Session are not enacted, a follow-up review of the February 20, 2024,
15 audit would include a review of workloads that can be integrated regardless of statutory
16 changes and identify limitations on integration.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
18 Louisiana legislative auditor, the governor, and each member of the Louisiana Workforce
19 And Social Services Reform Task Force.

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)]

HR 241 Original

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