

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 374

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRASS

HEALTH: Creates the Youth Tobacco and Nicotine Cessation Task Force to study the effects and impacts of nicotine use by persons under twenty-one years of age

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To create the Youth Tobacco and Nicotine Cessation Task Force to study the effects and
3 impacts of nicotine use by persons under twenty-one years of age, to identify
4 pathways worth pursuing to address youth tobacco and nicotine use, strategies for
5 prevention, cessation, and policy development tailored to Louisiana's youth
6 population, and to report findings to the House and Senate health and welfare
7 committees.

8 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana has identified the growing use of nicotine
9 products, including e-cigarettes and other tobacco products, among persons under the age
10 of twenty-one as a significant public health concern; and

11 WHEREAS, the health risks associated with early nicotine exposure are
12 well-documented, including impacts on brain development, increased likelihood of
13 addiction, and long-term health consequences; and

14 WHEREAS, a task force is needed to help raise awareness of the impacts and
15 potential health risks early nicotine exposure can have on persons under the age of twenty-
16 one; and

17 WHEREAS, a task force will identify the prevalence of vaping and use of other
18 tobacco products among the under twenty-one population, including demographic data and
19 usage trends across regions and socioeconomic groups; and

20 WHEREAS, a task force will also identify pathways worth pursuing to address youth
21 tobacco and nicotine use including but not limited to:

1 (1) The initiation and onset of all product usage.

2 (2) The short- and long-term health outcomes related to tobacco and nicotine
3 consumption.

4 (3) The enforcement of existing underage sales restrictions.

5 (4) Best practices for preventing usage on school grounds and in community
6 settings.

7 (5) Taxation strategies as a deterrent to youth access and affordability.

8 (6) Access to evidence-based cessation products, treatment programs, and public
9 education campaigns.

10 WHEREAS, in conducting its study, the task force shall also consider regulatory and
11 policy approaches that do not unduly burden responsible businesses or infringe on the rights
12 of adults who choose to legally use tobacco or nicotine products; and

13 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health shall oversee the task force, offer
14 staff support, and coordinate meetings to discuss findings, recommendations and any
15 proposed legislation.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
17 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create the Youth Tobacco and Nicotine Cessation Task
18 Force to study the effects of all tobacco and nicotine products, including but not limited to
19 the use of all vapor products and tobacco products by persons under twenty-one years of age.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of:

21 (1) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.

22 (2) The Louisiana State Superintendent of Education or his designee.

23 (3) The commissioner of the Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control or
24 his designee.

25 (4) Two representatives from the Louisiana Hospital Association.

26 (5) One representative from the Louisiana Rural Hospital Association.

27 (6) A representative from the Louisiana Cancer Research Center.

28 (7) The president of the American Cancer Society-Cancer Action Network or his
29 designee.

30 (8) The president of the American Lung Association or his designee.

1 (9) The president of the American Heart Association or his designee.

2 (10) The president of the Louisiana School Boards Association or her designee.

3 (11) The president of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents or his
4 designee.

5 (12) A representative of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

6 (13) The president of the Louisiana Association of Wholesalers or his designee.

7 (14) The president of the Louisiana Oil Marketers and Convenience Store
8 Association or his designee.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall review existing case studies,
10 public health data, and academic literature concerning youth tobacco and nicotine use,
11 including:

12 (1) Studies demonstrating the physical, psychological, behavioral, and academic
13 impacts of nicotine use on individuals under the age of twenty-one.

14 (2) Research identifying how and why youth initiate use of tobacco and vapor
15 products, including social influences, peer behavior, accessibility, targeted marketing, and
16 environmental factors.

17 (3) Scientific findings on the neurological and developmental vulnerability of youth
18 due to tobacco and nicotine addiction.

19 (4) Prevention studies that evaluate the effectiveness of early intervention,
20 school-based education, public health campaigns, and community programs in reducing
21 youth tobacco and nicotine use.

22 (5) National averages and trend data on youth nicotine and tobacco product use,
23 including comparisons to Louisiana-specific rates and demographic breakdowns.

24 (6) A comparative review of prevention and cessation programs implemented in
25 other states, including models that have demonstrated success in reducing youth initiation
26 and promoting long-term cessation.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall use this comprehensive
28 evidence base to guide its recommendations, with the goal of identifying actionable,
29 effective, and appropriate strategies for prevention, cessation, and policy development
30 tailored to Louisiana's youth population.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Department of Health shall
2 oversee the task force, offer staff support, and coordinate meetings to report and discuss
3 findings and recommendations.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall report its findings and
5 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the House Committee on Health
6 and Welfare no later than January 1, 2026.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
8 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the Louisiana State Superintendent of
9 Education, the commissioner of the Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control, the
10 president of the Louisiana Hospital Association, the president of the Louisiana Rural Health
11 Association, the director of Louisiana Cancer Research Center, the American Cancer
12 Society-Cancer Action Network in Louisiana, the president of the American Lung
13 Association of Louisiana, the chief executive officer of the American Heart Association of
14 Louisiana, the president of the Louisiana School Boards Association, the executive director
15 of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, the chair of the Legislative Youth
16 Advisory Council, the president of the Louisiana Association of Wholesalers, and the
17 president of the Louisiana Oil Marketers and Convenience Store Association.

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 374 Original	2025 Regular Session	Brass
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Creates the Youth Tobacco and Nicotine Cessation Task Force to study the effects and impacts of nicotine use by persons under twenty-one years of age.

Requires the task force to identify the prevalence of vaping and use of other tobacco products among the under twenty-one population, including demographic data and usage trends across regions and socioeconomic groups.

Provides that the task force will also identify pathways worth pursuing to address youth tobacco and nicotine use.

Provides that the Louisiana Department of Health shall oversee the task force and coordinate meetings to discuss and report findings.