

1 WHEREAS, certain covered entities may promote policies in this state that warrant
2 examination for statutory compliance and may influence departmental policy, operations,
3 or internal governance while also receiving state funds or participating in publicly funded
4 initiatives; and

5 WHEREAS, LDH does not currently maintain a centralized inventory of its
6 relationships with covered entities, making it difficult to assess the full scope, financial cost,
7 and operational value of such relationships; and

8 WHEREAS, a comprehensive study would assist LDH and the legislature in
9 understanding the scope of these relationships, evaluating associated costs and benefits,
10 ensuring alignment with state law and appropriations intent, and identifying opportunities
11 for cost savings and operational efficiency; and

12 WHEREAS, allocating resources to evaluate and monitor these expenditures is a
13 prudent fiscal safeguard that promotes transparency, strengthens accountability, and ensures
14 that public funds are managed in the best interest of the citizens of this state and in
15 accordance with state law; and

16 WHEREAS, the legislative auditor possesses the institutional expertise and authority
17 necessary to assist in the financial review and verification components of such a study.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
19 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health,
20 in coordination with the legislative auditor, to conduct a study and submit a written report
21 mapping LDH's relationships with covered entities that may influence departmental policy,
22 operations, or internal governance.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for the purposes of this Resolution, a "covered
24 entity" means a nongovernmental organization that satisfies any of the following:

- 25 (1) Is registered as a nonprofit organization with the secretary of state.
- 26 (2) Is registered as a 501(c)(3) organization with the Internal Revenue Service.
- 27 (3) Has requested and received a legislative appropriation.
- 28 (4) Presents itself as a nonprofit organization in its public-facing materials.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall include, at a minimum, all of the
30 following:

1 (1) An inventory of covered entity relationships, including all of the following for
2 each covered entity identified:

3 (a) The name and description of the covered entity.

4 (b) The nature and purpose of the relationship.

5 (c) The LDH divisions, offices, or programs involved.

6 (d) The roles or responsibilities of LDH personnel associated with the relationship.

7 (2) A disaggregated financial accounting for each covered entity covering the most
8 recent full fiscal year, including but not limited to all of the following:

9 (a) Membership dues or fees paid by LDH.

10 (b) Travel, lodging, conference, or related expenses.

11 (c) Staff time or personnel resources devoted to association-related activities,
12 including meetings, webinars, conference calls, or similar engagements.

13 (d) Consulting, training, or technical assistance expenditures.

14 (e) Grants, pass-through funds, or other public expenditures related to participation
15 with the covered entity.

16 (f) Federal or other external funding obtained through or facilitated by the covered
17 entity, including any matching fund requirements.

18 (g) Any other partnerships, programs, or revenue streams facilitated through the
19 relationship. Such disclosures shall be reported on a per-entity basis and shall not be
20 presented solely as aggregated or department-wide totals.

21 (3) A cost-benefit summary for each covered entity assessing the value provided to
22 LDH relative to costs incurred, including whether the relationship satisfies all of the
23 following:

24 (a) Facilitates access to federal or external funding.

25 (b) Provides operationally necessary technical assistance or support.

26 (c) Could be reduced, modified, or discontinued without material impact on
27 department operations.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative auditor is requested to assist
29 LDH, as needed, in compiling, reviewing, and verifying the financial components of the
30 report.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall include supporting data,
2 methodologies, assumptions, and any limitations associated with the study.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that LDH shall submit the report to the House
4 Committee on Health and Welfare and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library
5 not later than February 1, 2027.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House Committee on Health and Welfare
7 shall convene a hearing not later than thirty days after the report due date to review the
8 findings of the study, and the secretary of LDH, or his designee, shall appear before the
9 committee to present the report and respond to questions.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if LDH is unable to submit the completed report
11 by the stated date, LDH shall submit a written status update to the committees and the David
12 R. Poynter Legislative Research Library not later than the report due date explaining the
13 reasons for the delay, the progress made to date, and a proposed timeline for completion, and
14 LDH shall appear at the scheduled hearing to present the status update.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the initial report identifies relationships with
16 covered entities that raise concerns regarding alignment with state law, appropriations intent,
17 or cost-effectiveness, LDH shall submit a follow-up report not later than ninety days after
18 the joint hearing detailing all of the following:

19 (1) Specific actions taken or planned to address identified concerns.

20 (2) Any changes to department policies, contracts, or relationships with covered
21 entities.

22 (3) Any projected cost savings or proposed reallocations of funds resulting from
23 such changes.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
25 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and the legislative auditor.

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 298 Original

2026 Regular Session

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Urges and requests the La. Dept. of Health, in conjunction with the legislative auditor, to submit a report relative to nongovernmental entities.

Requires the La. Dept. of Health to submit a report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library by Feb. 1, 2027.