
SENATE FLOOR AMENDMENTS

2026 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senator Mizell to Reengrossed House Bill No. 944 by Representative Hilferty

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, line 2, delete "R.S. 36:259(B)(23) and"

3 AMENDMENT NO. 24 On page 1, line 5, delete "an annual report;" and insert "a report; to provide for an effective
5 date; to provide for a termination date;"6 AMENDMENT NO. 3

7 On page 1, delete lines 8 through 16

8 AMENDMENT NO. 4

9 On page 1, line 17, change "Section 2." to "Section 1."

10 AMENDMENT NO. 5

11 On page 2, delete lines 13 through 16

12 AMENDMENT NO. 613 On page 2, line 17, change "(7)" to "(5)"14 AMENDMENT NO. 715 On page 2, line 19, change "(8)" to "(6)"16 AMENDMENT NO. 817 On page 2, line 20, change "(9)" to "(7)"18 AMENDMENT NO. 919 On page 2, line 21, change "(10)" to "(8)"20 AMENDMENT NO. 1021 On page 2, line 22, change "(11)" to "(9)"22 AMENDMENT NO. 1123 On page 2, line 24, change "(12)" to "(10)"24 AMENDMENT NO. 1225 On page 2, line 26, change "(13)" to "(11)"26 AMENDMENT NO. 1327 On page 2, line 28, change "(14)" to "(12)"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 14

2 On page 3, line 1, change "(15)" to "(13)"

3 AMENDMENT NO. 15

4 On page 3, line 3, change "(16)" to "(14)"

5 AMENDMENT NO. 16

6 On page 3, delete lines 9 through 24 and insert the following:

- 7 "(1) Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy.
- 8 (2) University of Louisiana at Monroe College of Pharmacy.
- 9 (3) Baton Rouge General Medical Center.
- 10 (4) Our Lady of the Lake Health.
- 11 (5) Ochsner Health System.
- 12 (6) Woman's Hospital of Baton Rouge.
- 13 (7) Louisiana Association of Health Plans.
- 14 (8) Louisiana Hospital Association.
- 15 (9) The Louisiana section of American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists."

16 AMENDMENT NO. 17

17 On page 3, delete lines 26 through 28 and insert the following:

18 "E. The consortium may adopt procedures and policies to provide for the governance
19 of the consortium. Such procedures and policies shall include but not be limited to
20 procedures and grounds for the removal of any consortium member and filling any
21 vacancies."

22 AMENDMENT NO. 18

23 On page 4, delete lines 1 and 2

24 AMENDMENT NO. 19

25 On page 4, at the end of line 5, insert "Any reimbursement for expenses incurred by a
26 member shall be the sole responsibility of the entity or agency the member represents, and
27 nothing in this Section shall be construed to require the Louisiana Department of Health to
28 provide reimbursement for such expenses."

29 AMENDMENT NO. 20

30 On page 4, delete lines 6 through 11 and insert the following:

31 "G. The chairman and vice chairman of the consortium shall be elected by a majority
32 of the consortium members at its first meeting, which shall be called no later than September
33 1, 2026, and the members may elect other officers as the consortium deems appropriate."

34 AMENDMENT NO. 21

35 On page 4, line 14, delete "I. The consortium shall hold quarterly meetings unless" and insert
36 "I.(1) The consortium shall meet at such times and places as"

37 AMENDMENT NO. 22

38 On page 4, line 17, change "J." to "(2)"

39 AMENDMENT NO. 23

40 On page 4, delete lines 20 through 23 and insert the following:

1 "J. The consortium and all meetings conducted pursuant to this Section shall comply
2 with the provisions of the Louisiana Open Meetings Law, as provided in R.S. 42:11 et seq.

3 K. Each department participating on the consortium shall provide reasonable
4 administrative assistance and staff support to the consortium, subject to the availability of
5 personnel, appropriated funding, and existing agency resources."

6 AMENDMENT NO. 24

7 On page 4, line 28, change "prioritize" to "recommend"

8 AMENDMENT NO. 25

9 On page 4, line 29, change "initiatives" to "funding opportunities"

10 AMENDMENT NO. 26

11 On page 5, line 1, after "innovation" insert a period "." and delete the remainder of the line
12 and delete lines 2 and 3 and insert "The identification or recommendation of any
13 public-private partnership, funding opportunity, or collaborative initiative by the consortium
14 shall not authorize or obligate the Louisiana Department of Health or any participating
15 agency to enter into any contract, memorandum of understanding, or financial commitment."

16 AMENDMENT NO. 27

17 On page 5, line 4, delete "this state" and insert "recommendations to the Louisiana
18 Department of Health"

19 AMENDMENT NO. 28

20 On page 5, line 10, delete "Focus on those issues of health" and insert "Identify health
21 issues"

22 AMENDMENT NO. 29

23 On page 5, delete lines 12 and 13

24 AMENDMENT NO. 30

25 On page 5, line 14, change "(5)" to "(4)"

26 AMENDMENT NO. 31

27 On page 5, delete line 16, and insert the following:

28 "(5) Evaluate and provide recommendations on:"

29 AMENDMENT NO. 32

30 On page 5, line 17, at the beginning of the line insert the following:

31 "(a) Solutions and partnerships to drive"

32 AMENDMENT NO. 33

33 On page 5, line 19, delete "(7) Evaluate the training" and insert "(b) Training"

34 AMENDMENT NO. 34

35 On page 5, line 22, delete "(8) Evaluate the impacts" and insert "(c) Impacts"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 35

2 On page 5, line 23, delete "(9) Ensure information" and insert "(d) Information"

3 AMENDMENT NO. 36

4 On page 5, line 25, delete "(10) Identify a" and insert "(e) A"

5 AMENDMENT NO. 37

6 On page 5, line 27, delete "(11) Coordinate an" and insert "(f) An"

7 AMENDMENT NO. 38

8 On page 6, delete lines 1 through 8 and insert the following:

9 "M. The consortium and its members shall maintain the confidentiality of all
10 information, data, and records received pursuant to this Section in accordance with
11 applicable federal and state law, including but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability
12 and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Medicaid confidentiality requirements, and
13 applicable state medical privacy laws. No individually identifiable information shall be
14 disclosed except as otherwise authorized by law. Any data-sharing arrangement involving
15 confidential information shall be subject to written agreements approved by the applicable
16 state agency.

17 N. The consortium shall submit to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research
18 Library, the House and Senate committees on health and welfare, and the governor's office
19 prior to the convening of the 2027 Regular Session of the Legislature a written report that
20 summarizes the activities, findings, and recommendations of the consortium, including the
21 Interagency Women's Health Agenda for the state. To the extent practicable, such reporting
22 requirements may be satisfied by incorporating them into existing Louisiana Department of
23 Health reporting mechanisms or publications to minimize duplicative administrative
24 burdens."

25 AMENDMENT NO. 39

26 On page 6, line 11, delete "a network" and insert "the Woman's Health Consortium within
27 the Louisiana Department of Health, office on women's health and community health, which
28 is an advisory group comprised"

29 AMENDMENT NO. 40

30 On page 6, line 13, delete "necessary to effectuate change for" and insert "to provide
31 recommendations on"

32 AMENDMENT NO. 41

33 On page 6, delete lines 15 through 20 and insert the following:

34 "(2) "Funding Priority Program for Women's Health Initiatives" means a detailed
35 information schedule of women's health initiatives in this state which are recommended by
36 the consortium which includes any current funding provided, the entity receiving the
37 funding, any additional funding needed in future fiscal years, and any alternative funding
38 sources identified through potential public-private partnerships and multi-state
39 collaborations."

40 AMENDMENT NO. 42

41 On page 6, line 21, delete "a yearly" and insert "an"

42 AMENDMENT NO. 43

43 On page 6, after line 29 insert the following:

1 "P. The duties, functions, and responsibilities imposed pursuant to this Section shall
2 be implemented only to the extent that funding is appropriated by the legislature or otherwise
3 made available through federal funds, grants, or other funding sources. Nothing in this
4 Section shall be construed to require the expenditure of funds in excess of those appropriated
5 or otherwise available for such purposes.

6 Q. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to create an obligation for the Louisiana
7 Department of Health or any participating agency to create new positions, enter into
8 contracts, or expend additional funds absent specific legislative appropriation.

9 R. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require the Louisiana Department of
10 Health or any other state agency to implement, adopt, or enforce any recommendation,
11 policy proposal, initiative, or action of the consortium absent separate legislative approval,
12 existing statutory or regulatory authority, the availability of specifically appropriated
13 funding, and the approval of the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and the
14 Louisiana surgeon general.

15 S. Any recommendation, report, agenda, finding, or proposal of the consortium shall
16 not constitute official policy or guidance of the Louisiana Department of Health unless
17 separately adopted by the department in accordance with applicable law.

18 T. The consortium shall serve solely in an advisory capacity and shall not constitute
19 a program, office, or operational division of the Louisiana Department of Health.

20 U. The Louisiana Department of Health shall be the records custodian for the
21 consortium for purposes of compliance with applicable public records and open meetings
22 laws. The Louisiana Department of Health shall not be deemed the custodian of records of
23 any participating non-state entity.

24 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the Governor or, if not
25 signed by the Governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without
26 signature by the Governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of
27 Louisiana. If vetoed by the Governor and subsequently approved by the Legislature, this Act
28 shall become effective on the day following such approval.

29 Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall terminate on June 30, 2027, unless
30 extended by the legislature."