

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 267

BY REPRESENTATIVE SPELL

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, in collaboration with the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and other stakeholders, to study the prevention and reduction of diabetes-related amputations and to report its findings and recommendations to the legislature.

WHEREAS, diabetes is a major public health issue in Louisiana and a leading cause of preventable lower-limb amputations; and

WHEREAS, amputations resulting from diabetes and related complications result in significant human suffering and increased healthcare costs to the state; and

WHEREAS, many diabetes-related amputations are preventable through early detection, coordinated care, patient education, and access to appropriate medical services; and

WHEREAS, improved data collection, research, and collaboration among public and private entities are necessary to reduce the incidence of such amputations; and

WHEREAS, institutions of higher education with significant research capacity are uniquely positioned to conduct comprehensive studies and develop evidence-based recommendations; and

WHEREAS, multidisciplinary input from healthcare professionals, public health experts, and individuals impacted by diabetes is essential to developing effective prevention strategies.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, hereinafter referred to as the department, to conduct, in collaboration with the Louisiana Center for Health Innovation at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette which has substantial research activity, a study on the prevention and reduction of amputations resulting from diabetes and related complications.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Center for Health Innovation at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette shall utilize existing resources and collaborate with the department in conducting the study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (1) The prevalence of diabetes-related amputations in Louisiana.
- (2) The cost to the state for treatment and care associated with those amputations.
- (3) Evidence-based best practices for the prevention of diabetes-related amputations, including early detection and screening programs.
- (4) Strategies to expand access to limb-saving services, including multidisciplinary care teams, wound care, podiatry, and patient education.
- (5) Opportunities for public-private partnerships to reduce the rate of amputations.
- (6) Preventative services including but not limited to topical oxygen therapies, advanced therapies including skin substitutions, autologous 3D bio-printing, and in-home services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall also include:

- (1) Examination of amputations related to diabetic foot ulcers and peripheral artery disease.
- (2) Development of recommendations regarding:
 - (a) Methods to increase public awareness of diabetes-related amputations.
 - (b) Best practices for reducing the number of amputations performed.
 - (c) Policy solutions to ensure access to treatments to prevent amputations, including insurance coverage for therapies designed to treat diabetic foot ulcers.
 - (d) Access to evidence-supported medical tools, technologies, and services.
 - (e) Methods to improve and incentivize quality care to avoid amputations.
 - (f) Strategies to promote collaboration among healthcare providers and stakeholders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health and the Louisiana Center for Health Innovation at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette shall establish or appoint a workgroup of subject-matter experts and stakeholders, which may include but is not limited to physicians, nurses, podiatrists, endocrinologists, vascular

specialists, public health representatives, and individuals affected by diabetes, to assist in conducting the study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall submit a report of the findings and recommendations of the study to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare no later than December 1, 2026, and shall make the report publicly available.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and the director of the Louisiana Center for Health Innovation at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES