

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 56

BY REPRESENTATIVE STUART BISHOP

HEALTH SERVICES: Continues the Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To continue the Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation created in the 2014
3 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana pursuant to House Concurrent
4 Resolution No. 159 for the purpose of studying the prospective establishment of art
5 therapist as a licensed profession, and to request that the task force report to the
6 legislative committees on health and welfare no later than sixty days prior to the
7 convening of the 2016 Regular Session with a baseline framework for licensure of
8 art therapists and regulation of the practice of art therapy.

9 WHEREAS, art therapy is a widely recognized and respected mental health
10 profession; and

11 WHEREAS, the profession of art therapy integrates psychotherapeutic principles,
12 art media, and the creative process for clinical mental health diagnosing, increasing
13 awareness of self and others, and promoting developmentally appropriate academic and
14 social interaction; and

15 WHEREAS, in the clinical realm, art therapy helps clients to achieve important
16 goals, including but not limited to the following:

- 17 (1) Coping with symptoms, stress, and traumatic experiences.
18 (2) Improving cognitive abilities.
19 (3) Addressing developmental, behavioral, mental, and emotional needs; and

20 WHEREAS, in Louisiana and elsewhere, art therapy is practiced in a wide variety
21 of settings, including hospitals, psychiatric and rehabilitation facilities, wellness centers,

1 forensic institutions, schools, crisis centers, senior communities, private practices, and other
2 clinical and community settings; and

3 WHEREAS, establishing the licensed profession of art therapist in Louisiana would
4 help to address unmet community needs for mental health services and would provide
5 important protections for the public, as full professional licensure, along with appropriate
6 standards and regulations for the profession, will ensure that only properly educated, trained,
7 and credentialed professionals are officially recognized as art therapists and are permitted,
8 exclusively, to use "art therapist" as a professional title in this state.

9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
10 continue the Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation to study the prospective
11 establishment of art therapist as a licensed profession in Louisiana.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the task force shall continue
13 as provided in House Concurrent Resolution No. 159 of the 2014 Regular Session of the
14 Legislature.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall reconvene on or before
16 October 1, 2015.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at its initial meeting pursuant to reconvening,
18 the task force members shall elect a chairperson, and shall adopt rules of procedure and any
19 other policies as may be necessary to facilitate the work of the group.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report to the
21 House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
22 providing a baseline framework for licensure of art therapists and regulation of the practice
23 of art therapy no later than sixty days prior to the convening of the 2016 Regular Session of
24 the Legislature of Louisiana.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
26 president of the Louisiana Art Therapy Association, the executive director of the Louisiana
27 Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners, the president of the Louisiana
28 Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the executive director of the Louisiana
29 Counseling Association, the state superintendent of education, the secretary of the
30 Department of Health and Hospitals, the executive director of the Louisiana State Board of

1 Examiners of Psychologists, the president of the Louisiana Psychological Association, the
2 executive director of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers,
3 the president of the Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers, and the president of
4 the Louisiana Hospital 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)]

HCR 56 Original

2015 Regular Session

Stuart Bishop

Continues the Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation created by HCR No. 159 of the 2014 R.S. to study the prospective establishment of art therapist as a licensed profession.

Requires the task force to report to the legislative committees on health and welfare with a baseline framework for licensure of art therapists and regulation of the practice of art therapy no later than 60 days prior to the convening of the 2016 R.S.