## SLS 16RS-1329

## ORIGINAL

2016 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 68

BY SENATOR GATTI

HEALTH SERVICES. Urges the United States Department of Defense and the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals to coordinate efforts to provide information to military families regarding services for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request the United States Department of Defense and the Louisiana Department
3	of Health and Hospitals to coordinate efforts to provide information to military
4	families regarding services for individuals with intellectual or developmental
5	disabilities.
6	WHEREAS, our military families make great sacrifices to protect the rights and
7	freedoms that make this country the greatest nation in the world; and
8	WHEREAS, part of that sacrifice includes moving frequently, uprooting families and
9	starting anew in different states or different countries every few years; and
10	WHEREAS, for families with children who have intellectual or developmental
11	disabilities these sacrifices can often be an added challenge as many states have waiting lists
12	for services available to their children that often outlast the families' duration in the state,
13	forcing them to start at the bottom of the waiting list each time they are required to relocate;
14	and
15	WHEREAS, to help mitigate this challenge, it is imperative that military families
16	know of all options available to them through both federal and state agencies; and
17	WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense established the TRICARE
18	Extended Care Health Option (ECHO) program to provide \$36,000 of additional coverage

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for active duty sponsored family members with condition-specific developmental disability
 needs; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals administers the New
Opportunities Waiver (NOW), Residential Options Waiver (ROW), Supports Waiver (SW)
and the Children's Choice Waiver (CC) which provide home-and-community-based services
for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities; and

- WHEREAS, it is imperative that regardless of the entry point into the developmental
  disability system, military families be informed of all options available to them in order to
  make informed decisions about their health care; and
- WHEREAS, appropriate referrals should be made by the United States Department of Defense and the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals to ensure that military families are aware of the services available to them and are able to apply for and secure services or placement on waiting lists.
- 14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 15 urge and request the United States Department of Defense and the Louisiana Department of 16 Health and Hospitals to coordinate efforts to provide information to military families 17 regarding services for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the agencies share informational brochures and fact sheets regarding their programs and services for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities that can easily be provided to military families regardless of where they present themselves to apply for services.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the agencies work together to address the unique
   needs of our military families that are in need of services for individuals with intellectual or
   developmental disabilities.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
   United States Department of Defense and the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

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DIGEST 2016 Regular Session

Gatti

Requests the United States Department of Defense and the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals to coordinate efforts to provide information to military families regarding services for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.