HLS 17RS-628 ORIGINAL

2017 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY REPRESENTATIVE NORTON

MENTAL HEALTH: Creates a task force to study Louisiana's current statewide system of healthcare delivery for Medicaid enrollees with serious mental illness

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To create the Medicaid Integrated Care Assessment Task Force to make a thorough study
3	and evaluation of Louisiana's current statewide system of healthcare delivery for
4	Medicaid enrollees with serious mental illness.
5	WHEREAS, the mental health and well-being of the residents of Louisiana is a vital
6	issue that affects not only quality of life, but also the health of communities, families, and
7	economic stability; and
8	WHEREAS, nearly forty-four million adults in the United States live with mental
9	illness and twenty percent of children and adolescents have a diagnosable mental health
10	disorder; and
11	WHEREAS, one in twenty-five individuals in the United States has lived with a
12	serious mental illness, such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or major depression; and
13	WHEREAS, studies note that individuals with serious mental illness die, on average,
14	twenty-five years earlier than individuals in the general population; and
15	WHEREAS, individuals with mental illness, behavioral health disorders, or
16	co-occurring substance use disorders can recover through treatment that includes
17	psychosocial therapy, clinical treatment, and peer support, alone or in combination with
18	behavioral, psychiatric, psychological, or integrated medical services; and
19	WHEREAS, parents, families, and caregivers are allies in recovery and serve as
20	critical members of the care delivery team; and

1	WHEREAS, the unintended consequence of untreated mental illness results in a			
2	negative financial and social impact on Louisiana including an ever-increasing burden on			
3	the criminal justice system; and			
4	WHE	REAS, the legislature declares that, due to compelling moral and economic		
5	reasons, it is	in the best interest of Louisiana to study and evaluate the state's current		
6	statewide syst	tem of healthcare delivery for Medicaid enrollees with serious mental illness.		
7	THER	EFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby		
8	create the Me	edicaid Integrated Care Assessment Task Force, hereafter referred to as the		
9	"task force".			
10	BE I	Γ FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of		
11	representative	es assigned from relevant state agencies, interested state medical and behavioral		
12	health service	s provider associations, and other relevant and interested parties, including but		
13	not limited to	all of the following:		
14	(1)	The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.		
15	(2)	The assistant secretary of the office of behavioral health, Louisiana		
16		Department of Health or his designee.		
17	(3)	The director of the Medicaid program of the Louisiana Department of Health		
18		or his designee.		
19	(4)	The director of the health standards section of the Louisiana Department of		
20		Health, or his designee.		
21	(5)	The deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections,		
22		youth services, office of juvenile justice or his designee.		
23	(6)	The state superintendent of education or his designee.		
24	(7)	The president of the Louisiana School Counselor Association or his designee.		
25	(8)	The chairperson of the Louisiana Mental Health Planning Council or his		
26		designee.		
27	(9)	The executive director of the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors		
28		Board of Examiners or his designee.		
29	(10)	The executive director of the Louisiana Counseling Association or his		
30		designee.		

1	(11)	The president of the Louisiana Association of Marriage and Family Therapy
2		or his designee.
3	(12)	The executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of
4		Psychologists or his designee.
5	(13)	The executive director of the Community Provider Association or his
6		designee.
7	(14)	The executive director of the Homecare Association of Louisiana or his
8		designee.
9	(15)	The president of the Louisiana Psychological Association or his designee.
10	(16)	The executive director of the National Association of Social Workers,
11		Louisiana Chapter or his designee.
12	(17)	The president of the Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers or his
13		designee.
14	(18)	The president of the Louisiana Hospital Association or his designee.
15	(19)	The executive director of the Mental Health Association of Louisiana or his
16		designee.
17	(20)	The president of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Louisiana or his
18		designee.
19	(21)	The president of the Louisiana State Medical Society or his designee.
20	(22)	The president of the Louisiana Association of Substance Abuse Counselors
21		and Trainers, Inc. or his designee.
22	(23)	Two elected members of the Louisiana House of Representatives appointed
23		by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
24	(24)	Two elected members of the Louisiana Senate appointed by the president of
25		the Senate.
26	BE IT	FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is assigned to the Louisiana
27	Department of	f Health, with staff support to be provided from existing personnel within the
28	department.	
29	BE IT	FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Louisiana Department of
30	Health or his	designee shall serve as chairman of the task force.

1	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, at the first meeting of the task force, the
2	members shall elect a vice chairman and other officers as they may deem appropriate.
3	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force shall receive no
4	compensation for their services and shall serve at no expense to the state.
5	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be domiciled in Baton Rouge
6	but may hold public meetings elsewhere in the state.
7	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of the task force is to make a
8	thorough study and evaluation of Louisiana's current statewide system of healthcare delivery
9	for Medicaid enrollees with serious mental illness and render objective, fiscally feasible
10	recommendations to the legislature for the implementation of policies that could be adopted
11	by the state for the delivery of integrated physical and behavioral health services for
12	Medicaid enrollees with serious mental illness.
13	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in conducting the study and evaluation, the task
14	force shall engage and work in cooperation with the human service districts and authorities.
15	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a report of its
16	findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation if necessary, no later than
17	sixty days prior to the convening of the 2019 Regular Legislative Session.
18	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative authority for the task force shall
19	terminate on December 31, 2019.
20	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Louisiana Department of
21	Health or his designee shall convene the task force for its first meeting no later than October
22	1, 2017.
23	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to
24	the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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 55 Original

2017 Regular Session

Norton

Creates the Medicaid Integrated Care Assessment Task Force to make a thorough study and evaluation of La.'s current statewide system of healthcare delivery for Medicaid enrollees with serious mental illness.