

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HCR 71

2019 Regular Session

Dustin Miller

SUBSTANCE ABUSE: Requests the Louisiana Department of Health to issue regulations to allow the establishment of new opioid treatment programs and methadone dosing sites

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Requests the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) issue guidance in addition to regulations for the establishment of new opioid treatment programs.
2. Eliminates any reference to "substance" abuse and replaces the term with "opioid" abuse.
3. Eliminates any reference to the establishment of "methadone dosing sites".
4. Eliminates from LDH's consideration the necessity to obtain certification as a Medical Provider when providing new opioid treatment programs that offer all three Food and Drug Administration-approved medications for opioid use disorder when delivering services to patients covered under the Medicaid program.
5. Eliminates from LDH's consideration the creation of an application process that regulates the establishment of medication units to expand the availability of methadone; engaging with local governing entities, opioid treatment programs, federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, and health systems to establish those dosing sites.
6. Requires LDH to consider entering opioid treatment programs into partnerships with providers offering physical health services, such as federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, or health systems, either by direct integration with these facilities, co-location or providing physical health services within the opioid treatment program. These partnerships should prioritize the screening and treatment of comorbid conditions, such as Hepatitis C and HIV.
7. Eliminates the requirement that the Louisiana Department of Health issue an annual report to monitor the progress of this new opioid treatment program expansion, including the number of Medicaid patients served at the opioid treatment programs and other measures of success.
8. Makes technical changes.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Requests the Louisiana Department of Health to issue regulations by December 31, 2020 for the establishment of new opioid treatment programs.