

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 74

BY REPRESENTATIVES SCHEXNAYDER AND GAROFALO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the state of Louisiana through the Louisiana Department of Health, or any other state agency as may be deemed appropriate, to provide funding from the CARES Act, P.L.116-136, or any additional federal funding to Louisiana private healthcare systems for COVID-19 testing and to report the proposed distribution to the legislature by June 1, 2020.

WHEREAS, the United States Congress and the president of the United States are providing support to healthcare providers fighting the COVID-19 pandemic through CARES Act funding and the various programs the act created; and

WHEREAS, such funding will be used to support healthcare-related expenses or lost revenue in healthcare systems attributable to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the particular impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on healthcare systems in Louisiana, the legislature is extremely concerned about the economic harm resulting from this impact; and

WHEREAS, increased access to COVID-19 testing and COVID-19 antibody testing is vital to protect the public health and safety of the Louisiana people; and

WHEREAS, funding provided through the CARES Act is intended to help health systems across America continue to battle COVID-19 and expand capacity for the vital functions of testing and containment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the state of Louisiana through the Louisiana Department of Health, or any other state agency as may be deemed appropriate, to use funding provided to Louisiana by the CARES Act, P.L. 116-136, including but not limited to a portion of the approximately one billion eight hundred million dollars received through the Coronavirus Relief Fund, or any additional federal funding to support Louisiana's private sector healthcare systems as they seek to establish a robust COVID-19 testing infrastructure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before June 1, 2020, the Louisiana Department of Health shall report the proposed distribution of funding called for in this Resolution to the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Health and Welfare, the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the governor and the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE