

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 49

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, the Louisiana Department of Insurance, and the Governor's Office to study the decline in the number of children with health insurance in the state of Louisiana and report their findings back to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

WHEREAS, since 2018 the number of Louisiana children who lack health insurance coverage has risen to over 50,000; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana previously lead the nation in health insurance coverage for children; and

WHEREAS, the data suggests an alarming trend that must be addressed by data-driven policy to address the substantial decline; and

WHEREAS, access to health insurance for children is essential whether they are eligible for Medicaid, LaCHIP, military coverage, or private-pay insurance; and

WHEREAS, the state needs to determine why children are losing health insurance coverage in order to address the reduction in coverage with meaningful policy recommendations; and

WHEREAS, data indicates that improving health insurance coverage for children will increase their overall health, making them more prepared to thrive in school and grow into self-sufficient adults.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Louisiana Legislature does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, the Louisiana Department of Insurance, and the Governor's Office to study the decline in the number of children with health insurance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that agencies creating this study shall also consult with but not limited to the Louisiana Budget Project, the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families, and the Georgetown Center for Children and Families.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall report findings from the study called for in this Resolution to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare prior to the convening of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall submit one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to this Resolution to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the Commissioner of Insurance, and the Governor's Office.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE