HLS 21RS-3255 **ORIGINAL**

2021 Regular Session

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 107

BY REPRESENTATIVE MAGEE

MEDICAID MANAGED CARE: Requests the La. Department of Health to ensure that Medicaid managed care organizations cover and pay for certain respiratory panels

A RESOLUTION

| 2 | To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to ensure that Medicaid managed |
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| 3 | care organizations cover and pay for certain respiratory panels. |
| 4 | WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has been an unprecedented public health |
| 5 | emergency due to which, as of March, 2021, more than ten thousand Louisianans have lost |
| 6 | their lives; and |
| 7 | WHEREAS, the most effective way to reduce the pandemic's devastation is to |
| 8 | quickly detect and treat COVID-19 and other respiratory infections; and |
| 9 | WHEREAS, because of the pandemic, utilization of respiratory panels increased as |
| 10 | a means of detecting not only the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 but other |
| 11 | potential respiratory infections which might complicate a patient's diagnosis and treatment |
| 12 | options; and |
| 13 | WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health has recognized the need for the |
| 14 | Medicaid program of this state to cover and pay for laboratory testing for COVID-19 and |
| 15 | other respiratory infections, particularly when the testing utilizes high-throughput |
| 16 | technology; and |
| 17 | WHEREAS, as utilization of respiratory panels increased, certain health insurers, |
| 18 | managed care companies, and other payors began to demand that clinical laboratories accept |
| 19 | reduced reimbursement and to deny coverage of and payment for laboratory tests ordered |
| 20 | by healthcare practitioners after examinations of patients; and |
| | |

1 WHEREAS, when ordered by a healthcare practitioner, these respiratory panels 2 provide a useful and effective means of identifying, quickly treating, and limiting the spread 3 of serious respiratory infections. 4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the 5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health 6 to ensure that the Medicaid managed care organizations with which it contracts cover and 7 pay for, without unnecessary restrictions, respiratory panels that include testing for 8 SARS-CoV-2 performed by healthcare providers conducting clinical diagnostic laboratory 9 tests ordered by Louisiana-licensed health professionals for Medicaid beneficiaries for the 10 detection or diagnosis of respiratory infections. 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 12 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and to the director of Louisiana Managed

DIGEST

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Medicaid Association.

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)]

HR 107 Original 2021 Regular Session

Urges and requests the La. Department of Health to ensure that Medicaid managed care organizations cover and pay for certain respiratory panels.

Magee