

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 100

BY REPRESENTATIVE FONTENOT

DRUGS/CONTROLLED: Requests the Louisiana Department of Health, office of public health, to study drug-related overdoses

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, office of public health, to study
3 how to effectively provide assistance to individuals who are being administered
4 naloxone multiple times, and to report the findings to the legislature prior to the
5 convening of the 2022 Regular Session.

6 WHEREAS, drug overdose deaths are now the number one cause of accidental death
7 in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, the rise in the number of hospitalizations and deaths resulting from
9 prescription drug misuse and abuse resulted in increased access to naloxone, and such
10 increased use played a role in the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy's
11 2014 National Drug Control Strategy, issued July 9, 2014; and

12 WHEREAS, Louisiana has one of the highest per capita overdose rates in the nation,
13 ranking eleventh overall; and

14 WHEREAS, last year, fifteen out of every one hundred thousand persons in
15 Louisiana died due to accidental overdose; and

16 WHEREAS, many other states have enacted policies to provide limited immunity
17 from arrest or prosecution for individuals with minor drug violations in order to encourage
18 others to summon help at the scene of an overdose; and

19 WHEREAS, to protect its citizens, Louisiana enacted Act 192 of the 2015 Regular
20 Session so that overdose victims can get emergency assistance and follow-up treatment
21 without fear of prosecution; and

1 WHEREAS, Act 192 of the 2015 Regular Session allows for a person acting in good
2 faith to receive a naloxone or other opioid antagonist prescription from a licensed healthcare
3 professional, and to possess and administer the naloxone to an individual appearing to
4 experience an opiate-related overdose; and

5 WHEREAS, Act 192 further provides that the healthcare professional and the person
6 administering the naloxone in good faith shall be immune from prosecution and civil liability
7 as a result of their good-faith effort to provide medical assistance; and

8 WHEREAS, administering the naloxone or other opioid antagonist and assisting the
9 victim with securing emergency medical attention is evidence of good faith.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana requests the
11 Louisiana Department of Health, office of public health, to study how to effectively provide
12 assistance to individuals who are being administered naloxone multiple times and to report
13 the findings to the legislature prior to the convening of the 2022 Regular Session.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
15 to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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

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 100 Original

2021 Regular Session

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Requests the La. Dept. of Health, office of the public health, to study how to effectively provide assistance to individuals who are being administered naloxone multiple times, and to report the findings to the legislature prior to the convening of the 2022 R.S.