HLS 21RS-3857 **ORIGINAL**

2021 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 127

BY REPRESENTATIVES EDMONDS, BACALA, DUSTIN MILLER, PRESSLY, AND WHEAT

MEDICAID: Urges and requests the La. Department of Health to adjust the state Medicaid budget to allocate funding more equitably throughout the disability services system

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to make adjustments in the state
3	Medicaid budget for the purpose of allocating funding more equitably to providers
4	throughout the disability services system.
5	WHEREAS, the legislature hereby reaffirms the following findings set forth
6	originally in Act No. 381 of the 2019 Regular Session:
7	(1) Access to quality services for persons with developmental, intellectual,
8	adult-onset, or physical disabilities furnished by private providers is essential for the health,
9	safety, and well being of those persons.
10	(2) Reliable and sufficient Medicaid reimbursement rates for private providers are
11	necessary to create and maintain a sustainable statewide system of services for eligible
12	individuals with disabilities; and
13	WHEREAS, on May 6, 2021, through Committee of the Whole House amendments
14	to the general appropriation bill for state Fiscal Year 2021-2022, the House of
15	Representatives added over fifty-one million dollars to the bill to fund Medicaid rate
16	increases for private providers of all of the following services: Long-term personal care
17	services, Community Choices Waiver services, Adult Day Health Care Waiver services,
18	New Opportunities Waiver services, Children's Choice Waiver services, Supports Waiver
19	services, Residential Options Waiver services, services of intermediate care facilities for
20	people with developmental disabilities, and support coordination services; and

1 WHEREAS, the intent and purpose of these Medicaid rate increases was to provide 2 much-needed funding on an equitable basis for providers throughout the disability services 3 system of this state; and 4 WHEREAS, subsequent amendments to the general appropriation bill had the unintended consequences of reducing the total amount of funding for disability services 5 6 provider rate increases and limiting the purposes for which the smaller amount of 7 appropriated funding could be expended; and 8 WHEREAS, providers of services for people with disabilities are essential 9 components of the state Medicaid program and the services that they deliver for individuals, 10 families, and communities are invaluable; and 11 WHEREAS, equitable funding for all members of the diverse group of providers that 12 make up this state's disability services system is necessary in order to keep disparities in 13 resources from impacting the availability, consistency, and quality of services delivered 14 system-wide. 15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 16 urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to make adjustments in the state 17 Medicaid budget as specified hereafter in this Resolution for the purpose of allocating 18 funding more equitably to providers throughout the disability services system. 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge 20 and request the Louisiana Department of Health to increase Medicaid rates to fund, 21 predominantly, wages and other costs of private providers of Children's Choice Waiver, New 22 Opportunities Waiver, Supports Waiver, and Residential Options Waiver services utilizing 23 the funding identified on page 96, lines 12 through 25 of the enrolled version of House Bill 24 No. 1 of this 2021 Regular Session. 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if additional funding beyond what is 26 appropriated to the Louisiana Department of Health for state Fiscal Year 2021-2022 is 27 realized and made available to the department, then the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 28 urge and request the department to utilize that funding to increase Medicaid rates to fund, 29 predominantly, wages and other costs of private providers of home- and community-based

services delivered through programs of the department's office of aging and adult services.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the

2 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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 127 Original

2021 Regular Session

Edmonds

Urges and requests the La. Department of Health to make adjustments in the state Medicaid budget for the purpose of allocating funding more equitably to providers throughout the disability services system by doing the following:

- (1) Increasing Medicaid rates to fund, predominantly, wages and other costs of private providers of Children's Choice Waiver, New Opportunities Waiver, Supports Waiver, and Residential Options Waiver services utilizing the funding identified on page 96, lines 12 through 25 of the enrolled version of HB No. 1 of this 2021 R.S.
- (2) If additional funding beyond what is appropriated to the department for state fiscal year 2021-2022 is realized and made available, utilizing that funding to increase Medicaid rates to fund, predominantly, wages and other costs of private providers of home- and community-based services delivered through programs of the office of aging and adult services.