

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 53

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Department of Education to study jointly the feasibility and advisability of funding more school nurse positions through the Medicaid program and to report their study findings to the House Committee on Health and Welfare, the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, the House Committee on Education, and the Senate Committee on Education prior to the beginning of the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature.

WHEREAS, there are approximately sixty thousand registered nurses in the United States public school system who care for more than fifty-two million students; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that school districts with adequate nursing coverage have fewer absences, higher test scores, and a decreased dropout rate; and

WHEREAS, increasing numbers of students enter schools with chronic health conditions that require management during the school day; and

WHEREAS, school nurses contribute to the health and well-being of all students and school staff by offering health information, health instruction, and quality health services; and

WHEREAS, the school nurse has a crucial role in the seamless provision of comprehensive health services and coordinated care to students, and comprehensive and coordinated health care is necessary to ensure that Louisiana's children are as healthy as possible so that they may succeed in school.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Department of Education to study jointly the feasibility and advisability of funding more school nurse positions through the Medicaid program and to report their study findings to the House Committee on Health and Welfare, the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, the House Committee

on Education, and the Senate Committee on Education prior to the beginning of the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals and the superintendent of the Department of Education.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE