
DIGEST

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HB 260 Original

2016 Regular Session

Leger

Abstract: Provides for a centralized human services transportation data system through enactment of the Human Services Transportation Data Coordination Act.

Proposed law to be known and cited as the "Human Services Transportation Data Coordination Act" provides for legislative findings, purposes, and goals. Provides that its intent is to improve public health, safety, and welfare through implementation of a coordinated human services transportation data system which will support and enhance transportation services for transportation-disadvantaged persons and yield a more efficient use of limited public resources.

Proposed law provides that the goals of the human services transportation data system provided for in proposed law include all of the following:

- (1) To expand and improve communication and coordination across state agencies relative to human services transportation and needs of service recipients.
- (2) To assist the state in meeting requirements of federal law relative to coordination of human services transportation.
- (3) To minimize service duplication and reduce costs to state government for transportation and transportation-related services.
- (4) To facilitate services for persons with special transportation needs and coordination of available vehicles and other transportation resources across multiple agencies for use in public health, public safety, and human services functions including but not limited to the following:
 - (a) Evacuations in times of hurricanes and other natural disasters.
 - (b) Hazardous materials emergencies and other public health emergency situations.
 - (c) Routine transportation for persons who are elderly, persons with disabilities, and other persons with transportation needs.
 - (d) Routine workforce transportation to and from jobs.
- (5) To facilitate a reliable determination of the collective capacity of human services vehicles

in the state by type of service, and of utilization rates by type of service.

- (6) To facilitate productive use of any excess vehicle capacity; optimize driver time; expand geographic coverage; assist agencies in identifying riders and service needs; expand, enhance, and ease connections between riders and service providers; and improve customer service.
- (7) To leverage geographic information systems in order to identify any gaps in and duplication of routes and services.

Proposed law requires the office of technology services of the division of administration, referred to hereafter as the "office", to create, administer, and maintain a human services transportation data system, whether internally or by contract, in accordance with the provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law requires that prior to establishing the data system, the office shall evaluate the capability and scalability of existing software technology and data systems in use by state agencies and offices for the purpose of determining whether any software program or system currently owned by the state can be utilized or adapted to meet the functionality requirements of the data system. Provides that the office shall establish priorities and criteria for selection of the data system including but not limited to the following:

- (1) Capacity of the system to collect, maintain, secure, tabulate, and output all records and data reported to it.
- (2) Capacity of the system to interface with or enhance access to "One Call / One Click" service centers, and to advance innovations in coordination technology.
- (3) Minimization of barriers such as ownership limitations and development costs in order to accommodate data integration and a robust user interface.
- (4) Minimization of development and maintenance costs.

Proposed law requires that the data system and coordination technology shall feature a relational database for collection and organization of data elements relative to human services transportation. Provides that such data elements shall include, without limitation, the following: Fleet and provider characteristics; vehicle log data; trip log data, by trip; data relative to disaster response transportation; and data relative to eligible clientele by agency:

Proposed law authorizes the office to collaborate with the Department of Transportation and Development to develop administrative rules which, in part, shall set forth the full complement of data elements to be collected in the data system. Provides that the office shall adopt all rules in accordance with the APA as are necessary for implementation and management of the data system; and that the rules shall provide, at minimum, the following:

- (1) A listing of the individual data elements to be collected in the data system.

- (2) Policies and procedures for ensuring all of the following:
 - (a) That data in the system is maintained in a secure environment.
 - (b) That any personally identifiable information, protected health information, and other sensitive personal information which may be stored in the data system is maintained in compliance with applicable privacy laws.
- (3) Specifications for agreements between the office and the agencies and offices designated in proposed law relative to reporting of data to the system and data sharing. Provides that at minimum, these specifications shall address all of the following:
 - (a) Security arrangements to be set forth in the agreements between the parties for the purpose of protecting data from unauthorized access and from other threats to the privacy of individuals and the confidentiality of the data.
 - (b) The listing of the individual data elements to be reported to the system.
 - (c) Intervals at which reporting agencies, offices, and service providers are to furnish the required data to the system.
 - (d) Coordination, use of findings, and use of the data system to facilitate innovative coordinated access and mobility management.

Proposed law requires that unless otherwise prohibited by law, each of the following state agencies and offices shall report to the office, at intervals specified in an agreement developed pursuant to proposed law, each data element which it possesses and is required by rule to report to the data system:

- (1) The Department of Transportation and Development.
- (2) The Department of Health and Hospitals.
- (3) The Department of Children and Family Services.
- (4) The Department of Economic Development.
- (5) The Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (6) The Department of Education.
- (7) The Louisiana Workforce Commission.
- (8) The Department of Elderly Affairs.

- (9) The Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs.
- (10) The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.
- (11) The Department of Agriculture.

Proposed law provides that each state entity required by proposed law to report data to the system shall enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other type of agreement with the office relative to reporting of data. Provides that each agreement developed pursuant to proposed law shall meet the specifications and standards therefor provided in rules of the office.

Proposed law requires the office to submit a written report no later than March 1, 2017, addressing the status of the implementation of proposed law to the legislative committees on health and welfare, and to the committees on transportation, highways and public works.

Effective September 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 39:15.3(B)(1)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 29:725(K), R.S. 36:104(A)(15), 154(A)(9), 254(A)(15), 304(A)(9), 474(A)(13), 504(A)(10), 624(A)(9), 645(A)(9), and 784(A)(9), R.S. 39:15.3(B)(1)(o) and 16.1-16.5, and R.S. 46:932(15))