SLS 16RS-377 **ORIGINAL**

2016 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY SENATOR BARROW

HEALTH SERVICES. Continues the task force to study and make recommendations concerning health services delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To continue and provide with respect to the task force to study health services delivery and
3	financing in the Baton Rouge region created by House Concurrent Resolution No.
4	129 of the 2015 Regular Session of the Legislature.
5	WHEREAS, through House Concurrent Resolution No. 129 of the 2015 Regular
6	Session, the legislature formed a task force to study health services delivery and financing
7	in the Baton Rouge region; and
8	WHEREAS, the task force is composed of nineteen members who individually and
9	collectively, possess significant expertise in major aspects of the state's healthcare system,
10	such as direct provision of health services, healthcare financing, development of healthcare
11	workforce, and public health advocacy; and
12	WHEREAS, since its inception, the task force has held regular public meetings to
13	examine issues related to health services delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region
14	including, without limitation, the following:
15	(1) Barriers to access to healthcare faced by low- to moderate-income persons.
16	(2) Impacts of cuts to federal disproportionate share hospital funding provided
17	through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that finance expansion of Medicaid
18	programs of states which elect to participate in Medicaid expansion.

1	(3) Effects on public health of the closure of the state-operated public hospital in
2	Baton Rouge and privatization of the services formerly delivered there.
3	(4) Impacts on private hospitals which do not operate under a cooperative endeavor
4	agreement with the state of providing uncompensated care.
5	(5) Policies which could expand the capacity of public and private urgent care clinics
6	to meet the healthcare needs of medically underserved populations; and
7	WHEREAS, considering the profound changes in healthcare delivery and financing
8	in Baton Rouge that have occurred in the past several years, dramatically impacting access
9	to care in the city and surrounding region, the efforts of this task force are vitally important
10	at present and will remain so in the near term; and
11	WHEREAS, as evidenced by final passage of House Bill No. 1493 of the 2010
12	Regular Session requiring reports to the legislature relative to privatization of services of the
13	Earl K. Long Medical Center, which was the first of nine hospitals in the state's ten-hospital
14	system to be privatized, and by extensive debate concerning the state health system in every
15	session since 2010, the legislature continues to express deep concern about the fiscal and
16	public health consequences of hospital privatization since the outset of the privatization
17	efforts; and
18	WHEREAS, these circumstances are of serious concern to policymakers at the city,
19	regional, and state level; and
20	WHEREAS, for the foregoing reasons, continuation of the task force's efforts is a
21	priority of the legislature.
22	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
23	continue the task force to study and make recommendations concerning health services
24	delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region created by House Concurrent Resolution
25	No. 129 of the 2015 Regular Session.
26	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative authority for the task force shall
27	continue through December 31, 2017.
28	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership and purposes of the task force
29	shall continue as provided in House Concurrent Resolution No. 129 of the 2015 Regular
30	Session.

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ORIGINAL
SCR NO. 4

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SCR 4 Original

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the mayor-president of East Baton Rouge Parish, the chief executive officer of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation, the chief executive officer of Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, the chief executive officer of the Baton Rouge General Health System, the chief executive officer of Lane Regional Medical Center, the chief executive officer of Ochsner Health System, the coroner of East Baton Rouge Parish, the administrator of East Baton Rouge Parish Emergency Medical Services, the chief executive officer of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, the president of the Louisiana AFL-CIO, the lead organizer of Together Baton Rouge, the president of the Capital Area Medical Society, the president of the Campaign for Healthcare for Everyone - Louisiana, the president of the Louisiana Center for Health Equity, and the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Angela L. De Jean.

DIGEST 2016 Regular Session

Barrow

Continues and provides with respect to the 19-member task force to study and make recommendations concerning health services delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region created by HCR No. 129 of the 2015 Regular Session.

Specifies that the membership and purposes of the task force shall continue as provided in HCR No. 129 of the 2015 Regular Session.

Provides that legislative authority for the study committee shall continue through December 31, 2017.