



1           WHEREAS, the office of aging and adult services of the Department of Health and  
2 Hospitals administers home- and community-based long-term care services through various  
3 waiver and state plan programs for individuals who are elderly or have disabilities, assisting  
4 them in their homes and in the community; and

5           WHEREAS, a direct service worker is a person who assists an individual to lead a  
6 self-directed life and encourages attitudes and behaviors that contribute to the community;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, the self-directed service option available through the department's  
9 waiver programs allows a Medicaid enrollee to choose a direct service worker to provide  
10 necessary services and supports, which maximizes the participant's choice and control over  
11 services and supports; and

12           WHEREAS, a fiscal/employer agent provides financial management services for  
13 self-directing participants who act as their own employer by assisting with employer payroll  
14 responsibilities, without taking away the right of the participant to exercise self-direction;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, a Medicaid enrollee does not currently have the option to choose a  
17 fiscal/employer agent when the enrollee hires a direct service worker; and

18           WHEREAS, it is important that a Medicaid enrollee feel assured that the  
19 fiscal/employer agent will provide quality, person-centered services that promote  
20 accountability and the use of cost-effective resources to address the personal needs of the  
21 enrollee; and

22           WHEREAS, allowing a Medicaid enrollee to choose a Louisiana-based  
23 fiscal/employer agent will help stimulate economic growth by providing employment  
24 opportunities within the local community in which the business is established and will  
25 provide a local contact to assist the enrollee with questions and concerns; and

26           WHEREAS, in a world of rapidly changing health care delivery and financing  
27 systems, it should be the continuing goal of the Department of Health and Hospitals to  
28 develop a system that meets the needs of the participants, and ensures quality and value for  
29 Louisiana citizens who choose to receive services in their community.

1           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
2 authorize and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the feasibility of  
3 providing a choice of fiscal/employer agents, including a Louisiana-based option, to  
4 Medicaid enrollees who hire a direct service worker as a home-based attendant through a  
5 waiver program administered by the department.

6           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall submit a written report of  
7 its findings and conclusions, including any recommendations for legislation relative to the  
8 issue, to the legislature not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2015 Regular  
9 Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

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

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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)]

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Broadwater

HCR No. 201

Requests the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to study the feasibility of providing a choice of fiscal/employer agents, including a La.-based option, to Medicaid enrollees who hire a direct service worker as a home-based attendant through a waiver program administered by the department.