

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 245

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

HEALTH/LDH SECY: Urges and requests the La. Department of Health to fully fund the costs to providers of implementation of the electronic visit verification system that the department has mandated

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the secretary of Louisiana Department of Health to fully fund the costs
3 to providers of home- and community-based services of implementation of the
4 electronic visit verification system that the department has mandated.

5 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health, referred to hereafter as the
6 "department", is implementing a single electronic visit verification system to be utilized by
7 providers of home- and community-based services statewide as part of a Medicaid
8 information systems modernization initiative; and

9 WHEREAS, home- and community-based services providers deliver all of the
10 following services in our state:

11 (1) Personal care attendant services (services required by a person with a disability
12 in order to become physically independent or to remain in or return to the community).

13 (2) Respite care services (periodic care and supervision of a person with a disability
14 or a medically fragile elderly person so that the primary caregiver can be relieved of such
15 duties temporarily).

16 (3) Supervised independent living services (necessary training, social services, and
17 medical services to enable a person with a developmental disability or mental illness to live
18 as independently as possible).

1 (4) Family support services (advocacy services, family counseling, parent-to-parent
2 outreach, legal assistance, homemaker services, family education, and other related
3 programs).

4 (5) Adult day care services (services designed to meet the individual needs of
5 functionally impaired adults structured to provide a variety of health, social, and related
6 support services in a protective setting for a portion of a twenty-four hour day).

7 (6) Waiver program services (other Medicaid-funded home- and community-based
8 services for the elderly and persons with disabilities).

9 WHEREAS, the quality of life of our state's most vulnerable citizens depends upon
10 the quality of care that home- and community-based services providers are able to deliver;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, while the state will be able to claim enhanced federal matching funds
13 for the costs of implementing the electronic visit verification system, referred to hereafter
14 as the "EVV system", there is no guarantee in federal or state law or policy that these funds
15 will be reinvested in the providers which will be required to use the system; and

16 WHEREAS, the direct costs of front-line implementation of the EVV system fall
17 entirely upon home- and community-based services providers, representing yet another
18 unfunded mandate for these providers beyond those documented in House Bill No. 405,
19 House Resolution No. 205, and House Resolution No. 211 of the 2017 Regular Session of
20 the Legislature of Louisiana.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
22 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the secretary of Louisiana Department
23 of Health to fully fund the costs to providers of home- and community-based services of
24 implementation of the electronic visit verification system that the department has mandated.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
26 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the executive director of the Louisiana
27 Workforce Commission, the executive director of the Community Provider Association, the
28 executive director of The Arc of Louisiana, the executive director of the Supported Living
29 Network, the executive director of People First of Louisiana, the president of the Support
30 Coordination Alliance, the chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences

1 Center at New Orleans, the chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences
2 Center at Shreveport, the dean of the Tulane University School of Public Health and
3 Tropical Medicine, the dean of the Southern University School of Nursing, the dean of the
4 Southern University Nelson Mandela School of Public Policy, the dean of the Louisiana
5 State University School of Social Work, the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Public
6 Health Institute, the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Association of Health Plans, the
7 president of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, the director of the Louisiana
8 Budget Project, the president and chief executive officer of the Council for A Better
9 Louisiana, the state director of AARP Louisiana, the president and chief executive officer
10 of the Council for a Better Louisiana, the executive director of the Advocacy Center, the
11 chairperson of the Louisiana Assisted Living Association, the commissioner of
12 administration, the commissioner of insurance, the secretary of the Louisiana Department
13 of Veterans Affairs, the president of the Louisiana State Medical Society, the chairperson
14 of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, the chairperson of the Louisiana State Board of
15 Medical Examiners, the chairperson of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council,
16 the director of the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs, and the director of the Governor's
17 Office of Elderly Affairs.

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)]

HR 245 Original

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Urges and requests the secretary of La. Dept. of Health to fully fund the costs to providers of home- and community-based services of implementation of the electronic visit verification system that the dept. has mandated.