

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 269

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

HEALTH/LDH: Requests the Louisiana Department of Health to study and identify opportunities for increasing the availability of prescription nonopioid medications

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to study and identify opportunities
3 to increase the availability of prescription nonopioid medications.

4 WHEREAS, over fifty million Americans report suffering pain on most days or
5 every day, and, for many, the only available treatment is opioid pain medication; and

6 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that in 2016
7 Louisiana had the fifth highest rate of opioid prescriptions at over ninety-eight prescriptions
8 per one hundred persons; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention determined that
10 fatal overdoses claimed nearly two thousand five hundred lives in Louisiana, one thousand
11 three hundred and thirty-five of which were attributed to opioids; and

12 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has only worsened our nation's epidemic of
13 opioid abuse, which the National Institute on Drug Abuse of the National Institutes of Health
14 characterizes as a "serious national crisis" that affects public health as well as social and
15 economic welfare.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
17 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health
18 to study opportunities to increase the availability of prescription nonopioid medications
19 including all of the following:

- 20 (1) The feasibility of using clinically appropriate nonopioid medications for the
21 treatment of pain as a method to reduce the use of opioids.

1 (2) The difference in the amount of reimbursement for opioid pain medication versus
2 nonopioid pain medication.

3 (3) The cost of opioid pain medication versus the cost of treatment of those addicted
4 to opioid pain medication.

5 (4) The effectiveness and availability of nonopioid pain medications.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall
7 provide a written report to the House of Representatives no later than February 1, 2024.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
9 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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 269 Original

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Bagley

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