

2018 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 40

BY REPRESENTATIVES THOMAS, BILLIOT, BOUIE, GLOVER, HOFFMANN, AND  
DUSTIN MILLER

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to develop a report of certain data on the state's public-private partnership hospitals, and to submit the report to the legislature on a quarterly basis.

WHEREAS, the legislature strives to ensure that Louisiana's government is responsive to the needs of the people of this state and that the government of this state is accountable, efficient, and effective; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's system of public safety net hospitals was rapidly transformed beginning in 2012 when the state commenced a large-scale privatization of these hospitals' operations; and

WHEREAS, all but one of the state's safety net hospitals are now operated by private partners, with the terms of the partnerships set forth in cooperative endeavor agreements between the state and the individual partners; and

WHEREAS, these hospitals are now referred to collectively as "public-private partnership hospitals"; and

WHEREAS, the public-private hospitals include all hospitals listed in R.S. 17:1519.2(B) which are now operated by a private partner, including closed hospitals that have had their functions assumed by a private partner; and

WHEREAS, before, during, and after the privatization of the safety net hospital system, the objects and purposes of the system have included the following:

(1) Providing access to high-quality medical care for all patients, including the medically indigent and uninsured.

(2) Developing the medical and clinical workforce of this state through accredited residency and other health education programs.

(3) Operating efficiently and cost-effectively.

(4) Working cooperatively with other healthcare providers and agencies to improve health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, reliable data reflecting operations and utilization rates of the public-private partnership hospitals are essential in formulating sound fiscal and public health policy in this state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to develop and submit to the legislature a report comprising the following data on each public-private partnership hospital listed in R.S. 17:1519.2(B):

(1)(a) The average monthly number and percentage of occupied beds for the three months comprising the state fiscal year quarter preceding the date of the report, based on the total number of beds at the hospital.

(b) The average monthly number and percentage of occupied beds for the three months comprising the state fiscal year quarter preceding the date of the report, based on the total number of staffed beds at the hospital.

(2)(a) The average monthly number and percentage of attempted patient transfers from other hospitals that were accepted for the three months comprising the state fiscal year quarter preceding the date of the report.

(b) The average wait time for each accepted referral or transfer to the hospital.

(3) The average monthly number of patients.

(4)(a) The average monthly number of emergency department visits for emergency conditions.

(b) The average monthly number of emergency department visits for nonemergency conditions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall submit to the legislature the first report of data called for in this Resolution on or before September 30, 2018, and that this report shall reflect data from the fourth quarter of state fiscal year 2017-2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after submission of the first report of data called for in this Resolution, the department shall submit to the legislature the report of data called for in this Resolution on a quarterly basis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the reporting requirement established in this Resolution shall terminate on October 1, 2020.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES