SENATE BILL NO. 133

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services.

BY SENATOR BARROW

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

2 To enact R.S. 40:1262, relative to equity in health care services; to provide for the duties of 3 the Louisiana Department of Health; to provide for best practices and protocols for 4 treating communities with underlying medical conditions and health disparities; to 5 provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters. 6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 7 Section 1. R.S. 40:1262 is hereby enacted to read as follows: 8 §1262. Health equity; duties of the Louisiana Department of Health 9 A. The Louisiana Department of Health, in addition to the other powers 10 and duties conferred upon it by law, shall serve as a foundation and resource for 11 addressing health care disparities for women and vulnerable populations, and contribute to the improvement of the health of Louisiana's citizens. Specific to 12 13 the improvement in the health of women in Louisiana, the Louisiana 14 Department of Health shall be responsible for leading, consolidating, and 15 coordinating efforts across the state geared toward improving women's health 16 outcomes through policy, education, evidence-based practices, programs, and

AN ACT

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1	B. As part of carrying out the duties provided for in Subsection A of this
2	Section, the Louisiana Department of Health shall engage in all of the following
3	activities:
4	(1) Complete a thorough assessment of all activities engaged in or
5	services provided by the department that may specifically impact the health or
6	quality of life of women. The department shall submit this assessment to the
7	House Committee on Health and Welfare and Senate Committee on Health and
8	Welfare no later than February 15, 2022.
9	(2) Make available to health care professionals the best practices and
10	protocols for treating communities with underlying medical conditions and
11	health disparities by doing all of the following:
12	(a) Examining opportunities which provide greater access to high
13	quality medical care and improve health outcomes.
14	(b) Performing a comprehensive evidenced-based analysis of the
15	determinants of health equity that influence racial health disparities.
16	(c) Performing a comprehensive evidenced-based analysis of
17	interventions that positively impact health equity and address disparities.
18	(d) Performing a comprehensive examination of the population dynamics
19	that are indicative of health equity and disparities.
20	(e) Promoting health awareness educational media campaigns.
21	C. To assist in carrying out its duties pursuant to this Section, the
22	Louisiana Department of Health may analyze any other relevant data which will
23	add to the work of the department, seek input from any interested parties
24	including but not limited to licensed health care professionals, advocates, and
25	concerned citizens, pursue any relevant topics including policies and laws that
26	impact health disparities, and promote community outreach and extension
27	activities.
28	Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
29	signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
30	by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: ______

ENROLLED

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