

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 191

BY SENATOR CHABERT

HEALTH CARE. Requests the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to study the governance, efficiencies, and service delivery of the Louisiana State University Health Care Services Division and the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to study the governance,  
3 efficiencies, and service delivery of the Louisiana State University Health Care  
4 Services Division and the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center.

5 WHEREAS, the Louisiana State University Health Care Services Division (LSU-  
6 HCSD) operates hospitals, clinics, and trauma centers around the state, serving hundreds of  
7 thousands of patients every year; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1936 the Legislature of Louisiana created a state hospital board to  
9 implement the late Governor Huey P. Long's plan to build a chain of charity hospitals around  
10 the state, and the building of these facilities continued through the next three decades; and

11 WHEREAS, that chain of hospitals looks very different today, generally competing  
12 in the marketplace for available health care dollars on a par with privately-owned and  
13 nonprofit healthcare facilities; and

14 WHEREAS, today LSU-HCSD operates the following hospitals: Bogalusa Medical  
15 Center, E.A. Conway Medical Center (Monroe), Earl K. Long Medical Center [to partner  
16 with Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center] (Baton Rouge), Huey P. Long Medical  
17 Center (Pineville), Interim LSU Public Hospital (New Orleans), Lallie Kemp Medical Center  
18 (Independence), L.J. Chabert Medical Center (Houma), LSU Hospital (Shreveport),

1 University Medical Center (Lafayette), and W.O. Moss Regional Medical Center (Lake  
2 Charles); and

3 WHEREAS, these hospitals serve every corner of the state and offer essential  
4 services to both inpatients and outpatients, often providing the only inpatient, emergency,  
5 and psychiatric care within a reasonable distance; and

6 WHEREAS, in 2010 these hospitals recorded more than three hundred thousand  
7 inpatient days (one patient/day/bed), nearly one million six hundred thousand outpatient  
8 visits, over four hundred thousand emergency department encounters (patients treated), and  
9 over one million one hundred thousand outpatient clinic visits; and

10 WHEREAS, sixty percent of all physician residents and fellows in Louisiana are  
11 assigned to and trained in the LSU-HCSD hospitals at any one time, and nearly all those  
12 practicing in the state have worked in these facilities and outpatient clinics at some time  
13 during their medical training; and

14 WHEREAS, in serving this huge portion of the population of Louisiana's sick and  
15 injured, these hospitals serve a strategic and vital role in training medical, nursing, and allied  
16 health professionals both while attending medical school and through residency training after  
17 graduation; and

18 WHEREAS, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (LSU-HSC) operates  
19 the medical school in New Orleans, the medical school in Shreveport, school of nursing in  
20 New Orleans, the dental school in New Orleans, and the school of allied health professions  
21 in New Orleans; and

22 WHEREAS, medical education and research are related pursuits and the LSU-HSC  
23 asserts that academic excellence in research heightens the intellectual atmosphere, develops  
24 new knowledge, and transmits current information for the benefit of all Louisianians; and

25 WHEREAS, the undergraduate training programs at these institutions enable students  
26 to become competent, caring physicians, nurses, dentists, and allied health professionals,  
27 most of whom remain in the state of Louisiana to practice following graduation; and

28 WHEREAS, these undergraduate training programs assess and adjust to the changing  
29 physician workforce, as well as nursing and allied health, to meet the health care needs of  
30 the state as a whole.

1           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
2 does hereby urge and request the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to study the  
3 governance, efficiencies, and service delivery of the Louisiana State University Health Care  
4 Services Division and the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center.

5           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare  
6 report its findings and conclusions to the Senate no later than February 1, 2013.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Dozier O'Brien.

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DIGEST

Chabert

SR No.

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