

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 40

BY SENATORS BARROW, BERNARD, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CLOUD, CORTEZ, FIELDS, FOIL, HARRIS, HEWITT, JACKSON, JOHNS, MCMATH, FRED MILLS, MIZELL, SMITH, TARVER, WARD AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to report to the Senate Select Committee on Women and Children by January 31, 2021, the number of childhood vaccines administered during the periods of time when the state was under a COVID-19 public health emergency declaration, and a comparison of that number to the childhood vaccination rates for the previous two years.

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge newspaper, *The Advocate*, reported on January 30, 2019, that Louisiana was among "the states most successful in achieving high vaccine rates for children entering kindergarten" and that "Louisiana ranked No. 10 in the U.S. for vaccination rates among kindergarten students during the past school year, according to the Centers for Disease Control"; and

WHEREAS, beginning on March 11, 2020, the governor declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 and that declaration has been subsequently renewed and is in effect today; and

WHEREAS, the public health emergency may have caused some children between the ages of three and seventeen to delay routine immunizations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to report to the Senate Select Committee on Women and Children by January 31, 2021, the number of childhood vaccines administered during the period of time when the state was under a COVID-19 public health emergency declaration, and a comparison of that number to the childhood vaccination rates for the previous two years.

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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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE