

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 779

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

HEALTH/MEDICAL TREATMENT: Provides relative to expedited partner therapy

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1121.6(A), (B), and (C)(introductory paragraph) and to enact  
3 R.S. 40:1121.6(F) and (G), relative to expedited partner therapy; to provide for  
4 eligible medical conditions for expedited partner therapy; to provide for liability; to  
5 provide for the duties of the Louisiana Department of Health; and to provide for  
6 related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 40:1121.6(A), (B), and (C)(introductory paragraph) are hereby  
9 amended and reenacted and R.S. 40:1121.6(F) and (G) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §1121.6. Expedited partner therapy

11 A. The purpose of this Section is to allow for the provision of medications  
12 or prescriptions by any physician licensed to practice medicine in this state or any  
13 advanced practice registered nurse who is licensed to practice nursing in this state,  
14 or any physician assistant, who is licensed to practice in this state, provided such  
15 physician or nurse or physician assistant has the authority to write prescriptions in  
16 this state, to individuals who may have been exposed to ~~gonorrhea or chlamydia.~~  
17 gonorrhea, chlamydia, trichomoniasis, or other sexually associated infection, as

1 determined by the Louisiana Department of Health. Expedited partner therapy is  
2 hereby authorized absent a doctor-patient relationship and absent clinical assessment.

3 B. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, any  
4 physician or any advanced practice registered nurse who diagnoses or does a nurse  
5 clinical assessment or any physician assistant who performs an examination of a case  
6 of ~~chlamydia or gonorrhea~~ gonorrhea, chlamydia, trichomoniasis, or other sexually  
7 associated infection, as determined by the Louisiana Department of Health in an  
8 individual patient may prescribe, furnish, or otherwise provide prescription antibiotic  
9 drugs to that patient's sexual partner or partners absent a doctor-patient relationship  
10 or absent an advanced practice registered nurse-patient relationship and without  
11 examination or nurse clinical assessment or physician assistant examination of that  
12 patient's sexual partner or partners.

13 C. If expedited partner therapy is chosen as an alternative, the patient with  
14 a case of ~~chlamydia or gonorrhea~~ gonorrhea, chlamydia, trichomoniasis, or other  
15 sexually associated infection, as determined by the Louisiana Department of Health  
16 will be given a written document that he agrees to give to his sexual contact. The  
17 document will contain, but will not be limited to, the following information:

18 \* \* \*

19 F. A physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant  
20 who reasonably and in good faith renders expedited partner therapy in accordance  
21 with this Section and a pharmacist who reasonably and in good faith dispenses drugs  
22 in accordance with this Section shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability or be  
23 deemed to have engaged in unprofessional conduct.

24 G. The Louisiana Department of Health shall create a list of sexually  
25 associated infections that are eligible for expedited partner therapy.

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**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)]

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HB 779 Engrossed

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Freeman

**Abstract:** Authorizes the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to provide for the sexually associated infections that may be treated with expedited partner therapy.

Present law provides that a healthcare professional may, when treating a person for gonorrhea or chlamydia, prescribe medication to treat the patient's sexual partners without examining the patient's sexual partners, known as expedited partner therapy.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that trichomoniasis and any other sexually associated infection determined by the LDH may be treated with expedited partner therapy.

Proposed law adds that a healthcare professional or pharmacist acting reasonably and in good faith shall not be criminally or civilly liable for harm arising out of expedited partner therapy.

Proposed law provides that LDH shall establish a list of sexually associated infections eligible for expedited partner therapy.

(Amends R.S. 40:1121.6(A), (B), and (C)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 40:1121.6(F) and (G))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.