The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Ben Huxen.

DIGEST 2017 Regular Session

Hewitt

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the legislative staff of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall develop guidelines to incorporate the provisions of the <u>proposed law</u> to establish a pilot evidence-based budget proposal process for adult mental health programs administered by the Louisiana Department of Health. The guidelines shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget on or before July 1, 2018, for review and approval. The proposal shall include guidelines to utilize program catalogues, program inventory, promising practices, and research-based programs. No later than July 1, 2019, when possible, the Louisiana Department of Health shall use the guidelines for evidence-based budgeting to select programs for the delivery of care for adult mental health.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the legislative staff of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall work in conjunction with the Louisiana Department of Health to:

(1) Inventory programs.

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- (2) Categorize all agency programs and activities as evidence-based, research-based, promising practices, or other programs and activities with no evidence of effectiveness, and compile them into an agency program inventory. In categorizing programs, the staffs may consult the Washington State Institute for Public Policy's Evidence-Based Practices Institute's program catalogue, the Results First Clearinghouse Database, or any other comparable catalogue of evidence-based programs.
- (3) Determine benefit-cost ratios for all evidence-based programs in the selected policy areas. Effective July 1, 2017.

(Adds R.S. 39:2(13.1), (33.1), (36.1), (36.2), (37.1), (37.2), (37.3), (40.1), and 87.7; repeals R.S. 39:2(38) and (39))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the original bill

1. Deletes provisions providing that, beginning with the Fiscal Year 2019 budget cycle, the Legislative Fiscal Office shall require all agencies with responsibilities to deliver services in the areas of child welfare, mental health, and substance abuse (including local entities that receive state funding for these areas), to comply with certain

- requirements with respect to the inventorying of agency programs and the computation of benefit-cost ratios for use in the budgeting process.
- 2. Deletes provisions requiring the Legislative Fiscal Office to report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget the results of all activities, with recommendations for further evaluation of research-based or promising practices programs, the elimination or replacement of ineffective programs, and the funding of effective programs, based on benefit-cost ratios and the learnings gained.
- 3. Deletes provisions specifying that the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget may incorporate such recommendations into the Fiscal Year 2019 budget and appropriations bills, or delay such incorporation until the committee is satisfied that the information collected and inventoried will enhance accountability and performance measurement for the programs and activities of state agencies.
- 4. Deletes provisions requiring the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget to, no later than the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature, make a recommendation to the legislature regarding the application of the processes and requirements of this Section to other policy areas with evidenced-based programs.
- 5. Changes responsibility from the Legislative Fiscal Office to the legislative staff of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
- 6. Requires that legislative staff of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall develop guidelines to incorporate the provisions of the proposed law to establish a pilot evidence-based budget proposal process for adult mental health programs administered by the Louisiana Department of Health. The guidelines shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget on or before July 1, 2018, for review and approval. The proposal shall include guidelines to utilize program catalogues, program inventory, promising practices, and research-based programs. No later than July 1, 2019, when possible, the Louisiana Department of Health shall use the guidelines for evidence-based budgeting to select programs for the delivery of care for adult mental health.