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

DIGEST 2018 Regular Session

Barrow

Proposed law creates the "Empowering Families to Live Well Louisiana Act".

Provides for legislative findings.

SB 561 Engrossed

Authorizes creation of the Empowering Families to Live Well Louisiana Council and Strategic Plan.

Provides that to assist and empower struggling families throughout Louisiana, the council will be established within the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) which will exercise and perform its powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities in the manner provided for agencies transferred in accordance with <u>present law</u>.

Provides for the composition of the membership of the council.

Requires the secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, or designee, and a member of the Senate, appointed by the Senate President, to serve as cochairs of the council.

Provides that the council will have as its purpose the goal of pursuing programs and policies which reduce deprivation and hardship, while promoting the well-being and health of all Louisianians.

Requires the council will:

- (1) Work to establish public-private partnerships and seek private sector funding to be used with public funds to support evidence-based, innovative solutions to poverty.
- (2) May solicit guidance from in-state and national experts on the subject.
- (3) Seek funding for grant programs targeted at local government entities, nonprofit organizations, faith-based organizations, and other qualified community-based organizations directly serving people in Louisiana.
- (4) Work to develop mechanisms to coordinate assistance and services offered by state departments to best address the needs of families throughout the state.

Requires the council to adopt rules and procedures for conducting meeting.

Provides that the council may receive and expend funds appropriated or made available by the legislature or from any other source, including donations or gifts of money or services from public or private organizations or from any other sources, to be utilized for the purposes of the council.

Provides that the council will submit an implementation plan to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and the House Committee on Health and Welfare, meeting jointly, for approval by June 30, 2019. The plan will include administrative and legislative policy recommendations. An interim report may be filed prior to the 2019 Regular Session with legislative recommendations.

Provides that the council will present an annual report on the development of an implementation plan to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and the House Committee on Health and Welfare, meeting jointly, no later than January 31st of each year.

Authorizes the creation of a special fund, the "Live Well Louisiana Fund".

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 51:1055-1058)