

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 96

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARMES

CONGRESS: Memorializes congress to ensure that Tricare adequately covers behavioral therapies for military dependents

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to ensure  
3 that Tricare adequately covers behavioral therapies for military dependents.

4 WHEREAS, Tricare is the health program of the United States Department of  
5 Defense that finances health services delivered by civilian healthcare providers to nearly  
6 nine million five hundred thousand United States military personnel, military retirees, and  
7 dependents of military families; and

8 WHEREAS, pursuant to a congressional mandate enacted in 2016, the military  
9 consolidated its three Tricare regions into two on January 1 of this year, marking the most  
10 extensive reform to Tricare since the program transitioned from a fee-for-service model to  
11 a managed care model in the mid-1990s; and

12 WHEREAS, though Tricare has largely resolved problems with computer networks,  
13 communications systems, and customer service that emerged during its recent consolidation,  
14 military families continue to report facing significant obstacles in access to behavioral  
15 therapies for children; and

16 WHEREAS, according to behavioral therapy providers, these obstacles result from  
17 inconsistent reimbursement, undue delays in claims processing, problems with provider  
18 credentialing, misclassification of services and levels of coverage, and ongoing challenges  
19 in correcting errors by the managed care companies which now serve Tricare beneficiaries;  
20 and

1 WHEREAS, behavioral therapies can be immensely beneficial to children with  
2 autism and other behavioral or developmental conditions; and

3 WHEREAS, parents of special-needs children who have benefitted from behavioral  
4 therapies strongly contend that these specialized health services are not just beneficial, but  
5 in fact life-changing, in that they give their children a far better quality of life than would  
6 be possible without the services.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
8 memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to ensure that  
9 Tricare adequately covers behavioral therapies for military dependents.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
11 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the  
12 United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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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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HCR 96 Original

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