

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 258

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the office of public health of the Louisiana Department of Health to conduct a study concerning cost-effective means by which to facilitate emergency access to epinephrine at public places, and to report findings of the study to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

WHEREAS, epinephrine is a naturally occurring hormone which, as an injectable medicine, is used to treat anaphylaxis, a life-threatening allergic reaction caused by foods, insect bites, and other allergens; and

WHEREAS, epinephrine is administered via a device known as an auto-injector which is designed to allow a person without medical training to easily inject someone experiencing a serious allergic reaction with a life-saving dose of the medicine; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 99 of the 2014 Regular Session would have authorized any person licensed by this state to dispense a prescription drug order to dispense epinephrine auto-injectors pursuant to a prescription issued in the name of any public place at which allergens capable of causing anaphylaxis may be present, including but not limited to day care facilities, churches, restaurants and other retail businesses, recreation camps, youth sports leagues, sports arenas, and amusement parks; and

WHEREAS, this legislation also would have required employees at public places receiving epinephrine auto-injectors to complete training on responding to anaphylaxis prior to administering epinephrine, and would have required that such training be conducted by a nationally recognized organization approved by the Louisiana Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, the fiscal note on House Bill No. 99 of the 2014 Regular Session indicated that the bill's requirements, particularly those relative to training, were estimated

to increase the Louisiana Department of Health's total state general fund expenditures by two hundred forty-five thousand dollars in state fiscal year 2014-2015, and to increase such expenditures by four percent annually in future fiscal years; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to call for an effort by the office of public health to identify cost-effective means by which to facilitate safe access to life-saving epinephrine in public places in this state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the office of public health of the Louisiana Department of Health to conduct a study concerning cost-effective means by which to facilitate emergency access to epinephrine at public places.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to examining costs and benefits of facilitating emergency access to epinephrine at public places, the office of public health shall also examine and report on the following matters relating to epinephrine:

(1) Appropriate dosages of epinephrine based upon different persons' age, weight, and other physiological characteristics.

(2) The duration for which epinephrine auto-injectors can be stored.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of public health shall issue findings and recommendations from the study called for in this Resolution in the form of a report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare no later than sixty days prior to the convening of the 2019 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the assistant secretary of the office of public health and to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES