

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73

BY REPRESENTATIVES SCHEXNAYDER, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BEAULLIEU, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARRIER, COUSSAN, COX, CREWS, DESHOTEL, DUBUISSON, ECHOLS, EDMONDS, FARNUM, FIRMENT, FONTENOT, FREIBERG, FRIEMAN, GADBERRY, GAROFALO, GOUDEAU, GREEN, HARRIS, HORTON, ILLG, KERNER, LARVADAIN, MCCORMICK, MCFARLAND, MIGUEZ, GREGORY MILLER, MINCEY, NELSON, CHARLES OWEN, ROBERT OWEN, PRESSLY, RISER, ROMERO, SCHAMERHORN, SEABAUGH, THOMAS, THOMPSON, WHEAT, AND WRIGHT

HEALTH: Requests an update from the Louisiana Department of Health and the division of administration on efforts to establish an application or system to track the incidence and spread of COVID-19

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health and the division of administration
3 to provide an immediate update to the Legislature of Louisiana on efforts to establish
4 an application or system to track the incidence and spread of COVID-19 and to urge
5 the governor to amend his Proclamation Number 58-JBE-2020 to conform with the
6 White House Guidelines for Opening Up America Again.

7 WHEREAS, since the first presumptive case relating to the COVID-19 pandemic in
8 Louisiana was announced on March 9, 2020, cases have been confirmed in all sixty-four
9 parishes of the state, and Governor John Bel Edwards has issued multiple proclamations and
10 orders aimed at preventing and reducing the spread of the virus; and

11 WHEREAS, the impact of the coronavirus in Louisiana is widespread and ongoing,
12 with both immediate and potentially long-term risk to the life, health, and well-being of
13 Louisiana residents, as well as the severely detrimental impact on Louisiana's economy; and

14 WHEREAS, each day more and more businesses are reported closing their doors for
15 good due to their inability to operate during the COVID-19 shut-down; and

1 WHEREAS, the Governor of Louisiana has proclaimed that Louisiana can move
2 safely into Phase 1 as outlined by the White House guidelines for Opening Up America
3 Again; and

4 WHEREAS, a business cannot function without its employees, and the legislature
5 trusts Louisiana business owners to comply with strict social distancing guidelines to keep
6 their employees and customers safe; and

7 WHEREAS, throughout this time, the Louisiana Department of Health has tracked
8 and updated on a daily basis the number of confirmed cases in the state, as well as the
9 number of COVID-19-related deaths and the number of tests performed and completed; and

10 WHEREAS, with the governor's most recent stay-at-home order set to expire on May
11 15, 2020, and as work continues on Louisiana's economic recovery and the recovery of the
12 health, safety, and well-being of Louisiana's residents, it is necessary to ensure that
13 Louisiana is acting quickly to establish systems and processes to immediately identify and
14 contain future spread of COVID-19.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16 urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health and the division of administration to
17 provide an immediate update to the Legislature of Louisiana on efforts to establish an
18 application or system to track the incidence and spread of COVID-19.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge
20 and request that the governor revise Subsection (G) of Section 2 of his Phase 1 Order,
21 Proclamation Number 58-JBE-2020, to mirror the White House Guidelines for Opening Up
22 America Again that require businesses to operate under strict physical distancing protocols,
23 rather than setting an arbitrary occupancy percentage limit.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the request encompassed by this Resolution shall
25 not be construed as approval, endorsement, or promotion by the legislature of the practice
26 of contact tracing, as administered by the Louisiana Department of Health, as a response to
27 the COVID-19 public health emergency.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
29 to the Louisiana Department of Health, the division of administration, and the governor.

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)]

HCR 73 Reengrossed

2020 Regular Session

Schexnayder

Urges and requests the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) and the division of administration to provide an immediate update to the legislature on efforts to establish an application or system to track the incidence and spread of COVID-19.

Urges and requests the governor to revise his Phase 1 Order, Proclamation No. 58-JBE-2020, to mirror the White House Guidelines for Opening Up America Again that require businesses to operate under strict physical distancing protocols, rather than setting an arbitrary occupancy percentage limit.

Stipulate that the request encompassed by this Resolution shall not be construed as approval, endorsement, or promotion by the legislature of the practice of contact tracing, as administered by LDH, as a response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by HouseThe House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add a directive urging the governor to amend Proclamation No. 58-JBE-2020 to conform with the White House Guidelines for Opening Up America Again.
2. Add findings related to business closures and to White House guidelines for reopening of businesses.
3. Stipulate that the request encompassed by the Resolution shall not be construed as approval, endorsement, or promotion by the legislature of the practice of contact tracing, as administered by the La. Department of Health, as a response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.