HLS 22RS-1346 ENGROSSED

2022 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 64

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

CHILDREN/DCFS: Provides for a study relative to certain programs of crisis pregnancy centers.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

| 2 | To urge and request the Department of Children and Family Services to conduct a study to |
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| 3 | evaluate the Alternatives to Abortion Initiative and to submit a written report of its |
| 4 | findings and recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana. |
| 5 | WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) created the |
| 6 | Alternatives to Abortion Initiative by rule within the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy |
| 7 | Families (TANF) program in 2005; and |
| 8 | WHEREAS, the Louisiana Administrative Code provides that, in accordance with |
| 9 | the Alternatives to Abortion Services Program, DCFS shall enter into contracts to provide |
| 10 | intervention services, including crisis intervention, counseling, mentoring, support services, |
| 11 | and prenatal care information, in addition to information and referrals regarding healthy |
| 12 | childbirth, adoption, and parenting, to help ensure healthy and full-term pregnancies as an |
| 13 | alternative to abortion; and |
| 14 | WHEREAS, the TANF program was created to help families in need; and |
| 15 | WHEREAS, TANF assists needy families so that children can be cared for in their |
| 16 | own homes, proposes preventative measures for out-of-wedlock pregnancy, encourages two- |
| 17 | parent families, and aids in reducing the dependency of needy parents by assisting with job |
| 18 | preparation; and |
| 19 | WHEREAS, a goal of the TANF program is to provide assistance to needy families |
| 20 | so children may be cared for in their own homes or the homes of relatives and to encourage |
| 21 | the formation and maintenance of two-parent families by providing pregnancy and parenting |

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support to low-income women, their male partners, and families who are experiencing an 2 unplanned pregnancy; and 3 WHEREAS, having information on the financing, contractor performance, and 4 outcomes of the Alternatives to Abortion Initiative from a recent ten-year period will be 5 valuable to the legislature in its efforts to evaluate this program. 6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 7 urge and request the Department of Children and Family Services to conduct a study to 8 evaluate the Alternatives to Abortion Initiative. 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the goal of such study shall be the evaluation 10 of the Alternatives to Abortion Initiative's effectiveness and outcomes, including evidence 11 that the program is primarily serving pregnant women who are seeking abortions, evidence 12 that the abstinence education provided by contractors has measurably delayed the sexual 13 activity of program clients, evidence of an increased number of healthy, full-term, unplanned 14 pregnancies, evidence of improved health and well-being of women experiencing an 15 unplanned pregnancy, and evidence of the program's success in reducing the recurrence of 16 adverse birth outcomes. 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the study shall include the following information 18 relative to crisis pregnancy centers and the Alternatives to Abortion Initiative: 19 (1) The annual amount of funding allocated to the Alternatives to Abortion Initiative 20 from TANF. 21 (2) All other sources of funding for the Alternatives to Abortion Initiative and the 22 amount allocated from each source. 23 (3) All requests for proposals, responses to requests for proposals, approved or 24 denied, and all contracts awarded or amended. 25 (4) All written reports relating to the initiative submitted by contractors and 26 subcontractors to DCFS, including the DCFS and TANF Measures of Success monthly 27 report and Quality Assurance Compliance reports. 28 (5) Contractor performance data, including but not limited to the number of clients 29 served, parenting sessions held, individual counseling services held, support service 30 referrals, full-term pregnancies, and abstinence sessions held.

| 1 | (6) Information regarding the methodology and manner in which reimbursement |
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| 2 | rates are determined for direct services provided by each contractor and subcontractor. |
| 3 | (7) All performance enhancement plans submitted by contractors. |
| 4 | (8) All information and education, including curriculum, provided to clients |
| 5 | regarding prenatal care, childbirth, adoption, parenting, and the use of abstinence to avoid |
| 6 | unplanned and out-of-wedlock pregnancies. |
| 7 | (9) The administrative costs of the program and the annual administrative expenses |
| 8 | for each contractor. |
| 9 | (10) The names, certifications, and licenses of all medical staff employed by each |
| 10 | subcontractor. |
| 11 | (11) Lists of all agencies, healthcare providers, and other service providers to which |
| 12 | clients are referred. |
| 13 | (12) All onsite programmatic reviews on the contractor and its subcontractors that |
| 14 | were performed by DCFS. |
| 15 | (13) All subcontractors that have received funds through the Alternatives to |
| 16 | Abortion Initiative. |
| 17 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study called for in this Resolution shall |
| 18 | examine the financing, contractor performance, and outcomes of the Alternatives to |
| 19 | Abortion Initiative from Fiscal Years 2011 through 2021. |
| 20 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the written report shall be submitted to the |
| 21 | Legislature of Louisiana no later than thirty days prior to the convening of the 2023 Regular |
| 22 | Session and made available to the public. |
| 23 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the |
| 24 | secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services. |

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 64 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Freeman

Requests the Dept. of Children and Family Services to conduct a study to evaluate the Alternatives to Abortion Initiative and to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature of La. no later than 30 days prior to the convening of the 2023 R.S.