

1 adults and two hundred forty-six thousand Louisiana children are likely to experience a
2 diagnosable mental disorder in their lifetime; and

3 WHEREAS, a 2023 press release by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4 (CDC) reported that adolescents from all racial and ethnic groups have reportedly felt as
5 though they lacked purpose and experienced higher levels of constant unhappiness; and

6 WHEREAS, the CDC's data stated that substance use for adolescents is commonly
7 associated with mental health issues and other factors; and

8 WHEREAS, according to LDH, "The COVID-19 pandemic has magnified the
9 challenges facing adolescents' and children's mental health, causing altered experiences at
10 home, school, and during in-person social interactions. The pandemic also highlighted the
11 need for increased access to healthcare and social services as an alarming number of young
12 people struggle with feelings of helplessness, depression, and thoughts of suicide. In
13 response, the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Child and Adolescent
14 Psychiatry, and the Children's Hospital Association have declared a national state of
15 emergency in child and adolescent mental health."

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
17 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the chairman of the House Committee
18 on Health and Welfare to form a subcommittee to be comprised of members from his
19 committee to solicit research and make recommendations for proposed legislation and policy
20 changes relative to the mental health crisis in Louisiana.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairman of the House Committee on Health
22 and Welfare or his designee shall serve as chairman of the subcommittee at its initial
23 meeting to be held before September 1, 2023.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before February 1, 2024, the subcommittee
25 established by this Resolution shall submit to the House Committee on Health and Welfare
26 and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library a written report of its findings and
27 recommendations.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
29 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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)]

HR 71 Engrossed

2023 Regular Session

Schlegel

Requests the chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare to form a subcommittee, comprised of members from his committee, to solicit research and make recommendations for proposed legislation and policy changes relative to the mental health crisis in Louisiana.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Make technical corrections.