### 2023 Regular Session

### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 100

### BY REPRESENTATIVE DUSTIN MILLER

# HEALTH CARE: Continues the Health Inequities and Disparities in Rural Areas Task Force

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION		
2	To continue the Health Disparities in Rural Areas Task Force created in the 2022 Regular		
3	Session of the Legislature of Louisiana pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No.		
4	44 to identify and study key health issues affecting rural areas and develop strategies		
5	to improve health outcomes for rural and under-served communities and to submit		
6	a written report to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare by		
7	February 1, 2024.		
8	WHEREAS, according to the United States Centers for Disease Control and		
9	Prevention, overall health outcomes for African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and		
10	American Indians in this country are far poorer than for white people; and		
11	WHEREAS, vast health disparities persist in this country, particularly in rural areas,		
12	and many have worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic; and		
13	WHEREAS, rural areas comprise roughly eighty percent of Louisiana's total		
14	geographic area; and		
15	WHEREAS, nearly twenty-six percent of our state's population, totaling more than		
16	one million two hundred thousand Louisianans, live in rural communities; and		
17	WHEREAS, sixty-three of Louisiana's sixty-four parishes are classified as health		
18	professional shortage areas according to the standards of the federal Health Resources and		
19	Services Administration; and		
20	WHEREAS, approximately ninety-eight percent of this state's entire population lives		
21	in a federally designated health professional shortage area; and		

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1	WHEREAS, the vast majority of Louisiana's rural communities are medically under-		
2	served by all established measures, yet programs to address the healthcare needs of this		
3	population remain underfunded and few are guided by local stakeholders or locally		
4	conducted needs assessments; and		
5	WHEREAS, in consideration of the findings set forth in this Resolution, the		
6	legislature hereby declares that improving health outcomes in rural communities is a critical		
7	public health priority of this state.		
8	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby		
9	continue the Health Disparities in Rural Areas Task Force.		
10	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership and duties of the task force shall		
11	continue as provided in House Concurrent Resolution No. 44 of the 2022 Regular Session		
12	of the Legislature of Louisiana.		
13	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the task force shall include		
14	one member from the Clinicians of Color Workgroup and one member of the Louisiana		
15	Managed Medicaid Association, appointed by the Board of Directors of the Louisiana		
16	Managed Medicaid Association.		
17	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall continue to be a		
18	subcommittee of the Statewide Health Equity Consortium within the Louisiana Department		
19	of Health.		
20	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Statewide Health Equity Consortium shall		
21	reconvene the meeting of the task force no later than August 15, 2023.		
22	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members shall be given reasonable notice		
23	of the meetings of the Health Disparities in Rural Areas Task Force.		
24	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any member who fails to attend two consecutive		
25	meetings shall subject to removal by a majority vote of the task force.		
26	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if a member of the task force is removed, the		
27	chairperson may nominate a new member, who will become a member by majority vote of		
28	the current members of the task force.		
29	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may adopt rules of procedure and		
30	any other policies as may be necessary to facilitate the work of the group.		

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before February 1, 2024, the task force
shall submit to the House Committee on Health and Welfare, the Senate Committee on
Health and Welfare, and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library a report of its
findings and recommendations.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 6 president of the board of directors and the director of clinical practice, health policy, and 7 advocacy of the Louisiana State Nurses Association, the executive director of the Louisiana 8 State Board of Nursing, the executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Medical 9 Examiners, the dean of the Southern University School of Nursing, the president of the board 10 of directors of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners, the chief executive officer 11 of the Louisiana State Medical Society, the chief operating officer of the Rural Hospital 12 Coalition, Inc., the president of the Louisiana Hospital Association, the executive director 13 of the Louisiana Rural Health Association, the executive director of the Louisiana Primary 14 Care Association, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the president of the 15 board of directors of the Louisiana Managed Medicaid Association, the state director of 16 AARP Louisiana, the president of the board of directors of the Louisiana Academy of 17 Family Physicians, the president of the Louisiana Council of Administrators in Nursing 18 Education, the president of the Black Nurses Association of Acadiana, and the president of 19 the Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association.

# 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 100 Reengrossed	2023 Regular Session	Dustin Miller
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Continues the Health Disparities in Rural Areas Task Force as a subcommittee of the Statewide Health Equity Consortium within the La. Department of Health and provides for the duties of the task force.

Requires the task force to report its findings and recommendations to the legislative committees on health and welfare on or before Feb. 1, 2024.

# Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

- The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Health and Welfare</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:
- 1. Make technical changes.

- 2. Change the due date for the report of the task force from March 1, 2024 to Feb. 1, 2024.
- 3. Make changes to continue the Health Disparities in Rural Areas Task Force created in the 2022 R.S. pursuant to HCR 44.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add one member from the Clinicians of Color Workgroup and one member from the Louisiana Managed Medicaid Association appointed by the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Managed Medicaid Association.