HLS 24RS-569 ENGROSSED

2024 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73

## BY REPRESENTATIVES MILLER AND TURNER

MEDICAID: Urges and requests the Louisiana Department of Health to develop a professional consulting nursing service code for reimbursement of certain services for individuals with developmental disabilities

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to develop a professional
3	consulting nursing service code in the New Opportunities Waiver, Residential
4	Options Waiver, and Supports Waiver.
5	WHEREAS, nurses are critical members of the care teams of persons with
6	intellectual and developmental disabilities who receive home- and community-based
7	services through the Medicaid waivers programs known as the New Opportunities Waiver
8	(NOW), Residential Options Waiver (ROW), and Supports Waiver; and
9	WHEREAS, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities may be
10	eligible to receive financial assistance from Medicaid to help cover the cost of medical and
11	nursing care through waiver programs including NOW, ROW, and Supports Waiver; and
12	WHEREAS, intermediate care facilities for persons with intellectual and
13	developmental disabilities, known commonly as ICFs, are Medicaid-funded residential
14	facilities at which children and adults with special needs receive individualized healthcare
15	and habilitation services; and
16	WHEREAS, state licensing regulations for disability services providers, including
17	ICFs and NOW, ROW, and Supports Waiver service providers, require that these providers
18	employ, contract with, or otherwise ensure access to all necessary professional staff to meet
19	the needs of each service recipient as identified and addressed in the recipient's
20	individualized service plan; and

1 WHEREAS, certain healthcare services may be completed only by a nurse, such as 2 initial participant assessments, training for new or changed medication tasks, review of 3 medical forms and charts, and performing complex tasks that cannot be delegated to direct 4 support workers; and 5 WHEREAS, nurses deliver mandatory training and support to direct support 6 professionals who provide the majority of the recipients' health care; and 7 WHEREAS, the current reimbursement rates for nursing services are participants in 8 the NOW, ROW, and Supports Medicaid waiver programs are nonexistent or inadequate to 9 provide needed coverage to participants with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and 10 WHEREAS, NOW, ROW, and Supports waiver programs provide limited or no 11 reimbursement to healthcare providers for nursing services, and healthcare providers are 12 struggling to employ a nurse, leaving them unable to provide certain services. 13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 14 urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to develop a professional consulting 15 nursing service code in the New Opportunities Waiver, Residential Options Waiver, and 16 Supports Waiver programs. 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 18 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)]

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