

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 189

BY REPRESENTATIVE LYONS

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to allow nonemergency medical transportation providers to serve Medicaid enrollees outside of their designated regions if and when the enrollees need specialized nonemergency medical transportation services.

WHEREAS, nonemergency, nonambulance medical transportation (NEMT) is a critical part of the Medicaid program and the provision of Medicaid services in this state; and

WHEREAS, NEMT services have contributed greatly to the overall health of Medicaid enrollees as they have allowed such persons access to primary care providers, pharmacy services, and other forms of healthcare services; and

WHEREAS, currently, there is concern for Medicaid enrollees with specialized medical needs who live outside of the nonemergency medical transportation service regions; and

WHEREAS, such persons are unable to access the treatments they need; and

WHEREAS, for enrollees, NEMT provider services are not readily available through a provider in every enrollee's region; and

WHEREAS, by allowing Medicaid enrollees with specialized medical needs access to NEMT services, even when they are out of region, the Louisiana Department of Health can address this concern; and

WHEREAS, the allowance of out-of-region NEMT provider services could benefit Medicaid enrollees with specialty medical needs and improve the overall efficacy of the NEMT program and the healthcare system statewide; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health, Medicaid managed care organizations, and the respective patient health plans shall determine which providers are

the best candidates to accommodate those enrollees who are in need of out-of-region NEMT provider services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to allow nonemergency medical transportation providers to serve Medicaid enrollees outside of their designated regions if and when the enrollees with specialized medical needs are in need of access to NEMT provider services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health, Medicaid managed care organizations, and the respective patient health plans shall be tasked with authorizing providers to serve out-of-region enrollees to remedy some of the issues where such special conditions exist.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that authorized NEMT service providers should be determined based on patient acuity and equipment availability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health is hereby authorized to promulgate administrative rules as necessary to implement the provisions of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and the director of the Louisiana Managed Medicaid Association.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES