

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 59

BY SENATOR FESI AND REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to work with stakeholders to develop a plan for reestablishing nursing homes following a natural disaster.

WHEREAS, Louisiana experiences catastrophic natural disasters on a regular basis, especially in coastal areas of the state; and

WHEREAS, these natural disasters upend everything and cause a litany of unforeseen impacts; and

WHEREAS, rural areas of the state often experience long-term negative consequences in the aftermath of a natural disaster; and

WHEREAS, a community that has been ravaged by a natural disaster should not be further penalized by having a nursing home in the community permanently closed; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health should consider additional factors during the facility-needs review process, such as the relocation of elderly citizens away from their family and the emotional and social impacts on those elderly citizens and the community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request the Louisiana Department of Health to work with stakeholders, including but not limited to the state senator for Senate District 20, the state representative for House District 54, the Louisiana Nursing Home Association, the office of the governor, and family members of former or current nursing home residents impacted by recent natural disasters and to develop a plan for the reestablishment of nursing homes that have experienced closure associated with a natural disaster.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the governor, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, and the executive director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES