

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 559

BY REPRESENTATIVES ECHOLS, BAGLEY, EGAN, FIRMENT, FISHER, JACKSON,
MIKE JOHNSON, WILDER, AND WRIGHT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

HEALTH/LDH: Provides relative to human services districts and boards

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 28:914(D)(1) and 918(A) and to enact R.S. 28:914(E), relative
3 to human services district and authority boards; to provide for the hiring of executive
4 directors of the boards; to provide for duties and responsibilities of the boards; to
5 provide for reporting of the actions of the boards; to provide for monitoring of the
6 boards; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 28:914(D)(1) and 918(A) are hereby amended and reenacted and
9 R.S. 28:914(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §914. Requirements for districts and authorities; board education and awareness

11 * * *

12 D. All district and authority boards shall adopt:

13 (1) A mission, vision, and policy for the operation of the district or authority.

14 The board shall set policy as a body and shall employ an executive ~~director~~ director,
15 subject to confirmation by the secretary and the surgeon general, who shall be
16 accountable to the board, as a body, for the implementation of the policies
17 established by the board.

18 * * *

1 E.(1) Each district and authority board shall complete all of the following:

2 (a) Adopt consistent performance indicators to standardize reporting
3 outcomes.

4 (b) Conduct an assessment evaluating insurance and Medicaid billing to
5 insure optimum billing practices to support self-generated revenue. Each board shall
6 report its findings to the department and make its findings publicly available online.

7 (c) Focus on primary care integration. Each board shall complete the
8 Integration Practice Assessment Tool (IPAT), report its findings to the department,
9 and make its findings publicly available online.

10 (d) Conduct annual patient satisfaction surveys, report its findings to the
11 department, and make its findings publicly available online.

12 (e) Standardize processes and expand strategies to maximize financial
13 viability to reduce reliance on state funding.

14 (f) Prepare an annual report summarizing a board's progress toward
15 achieving statewide health goals as determined by the department.

16 (g) Hold an annual meeting to inform and educate elected individuals and
17 their staffs on the work that the board is completing in its jurisdiction. Each board
18 shall present at an annual meeting held at the state capitol. Each board shall prepare
19 a presentation that includes, at a minimum, the information required by this
20 Paragraph.

21 (2) The report required by Subparagraph (1)(e) of this Subsection shall
22 include but not be limited to all of the following:

23 (a) An overview of programs and initiatives undertaken in the preceding
24 year.

25 (b) Metrics indicating performance and outcomes relative to the statewide
26 health goals including patient surveys.

27 (c) Identified challenges and barriers to progress.

28 (d) Plans for improvement or adjustment in the upcoming year.

1 (3) The department shall compile the reports required by this Paragraph (2)
2 of this Subsection and prepare a statewide summary for submission to the House
3 Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
4 by February first of each year.

5 * *

6 §918. Louisiana Department of Health; responsibility and authority to contract;
7 monitor; sanction

8 A. ~~The secretary, upon consultation with the human services districts and~~
9 ~~authorities,~~ secretary shall be responsible for policy, development, implementation,
10 and monitoring of service provision of the statewide human services system to assure
11 the appropriate and reasonable delivery of behavioral health, intellectual disability,
12 and developmental disability services funded by appropriations from the state as well
13 as any public health or other human services contracted to the district or authority
14 by the department.

15 * * *

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)]

HB 559 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Echols

Abstract: Provides for the duties of human services districts and boards (boards).

Present law provides that the executive director of a board is hired by the board.

Proposed law provides that the executive director is hired by the board and confirmed by the secretary of La. Dept. of Health (LDH) and the surgeon general.

Proposed law directs the boards to complete all of the following:

- (1) Adopt consistent performance indicators.
- (2) Evaluate insurance and Medicaid billing practices.
- (3) Focus on primary care integration.
- (4) Conduct annual patient satisfaction surveys.
- (5) Reduce reliance on state funding.

- (6) Prepare an annual report that summarizes the board's progress toward achieving statewide health goals established by LDH.
- (7) Hold an annual meeting to inform and educate elected individuals and their staffs.

Proposed law provides that the annual report required by proposed law shall include all of the following:

- (1) An overview of programs and initiatives undertaken in the preceding year.
- (2) Metrics indicating performance and outcomes relative to the statewide health goals.
- (3) Identified challenges and barriers to progress.
- (4) Plans for improvement or adjustment in the upcoming year.

Proposed law LDH shall establish criteria for the boards to evaluate their performance.

Proposed law tasks LDH with compiling reports required by proposed law and providing a report to the legislature on Feb. first of each year.

Present law provides that the secretary of LDH, upon consultation with the boards, shall be responsible for oversight of statewide human services systems.

Proposed law provides that the secretary shall be responsible for oversight of statewide human services systems.

(Amends R.S. 28:914(D)(1) and 918(A); Adds R.S. 28:914(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add to the duties of human services districts and authorities.
2. Provide for the hiring of executive directors of human services districts and boards.
3. Modify oversight by the secretary of the La. Dept. of Health.
4. Make technical changes.