

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 185

BY REPRESENTATIVE SIMON

HEALTH: Continues the Study Group on Long Term Care Financing

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To continue and provide with respect to the Study Group on Long Term Care Financing
3 created in the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana pursuant to
4 House Resolution No. 166 and to request the study group to conduct a thorough
5 analysis of funding for long term services and supports in Louisiana with the goal of
6 increasing options across the continuum of care for residents of this state.

7 WHEREAS, the Study Group on Long Term Care Financing was created in the 2012
8 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana pursuant to House Resolution No. 166; and

9 WHEREAS, since its creation, the study group has made recommendations for the
10 design of a thorough and complete analysis of funding for long term services and supports
11 in Louisiana; and

12 WHEREAS, the study group has reported that Louisiana's long term care system, as
13 currently structured, is financially unsustainable; and

14 WHEREAS, the federal Medicaid match rate known as the federal medical assistance
15 percentage, or "FMAP", for Louisiana has declined dramatically in recent years; and

16 WHEREAS, the Medicaid Trust Fund for the Elderly, which is utilized primarily to
17 mitigate cuts to nursing home rates, is likely to be depleted within five years or sooner; and

18 WHEREAS, Medicaid expenditures fund the Community Choices Waiver program,
19 which currently has a waiting list of approximately thirty-three thousand people with some
20 waiting as long as five years for services; and

1 WHEREAS, Medicaid also finances the Adult Day Health Care Waiver program,
2 which has a waiting list of over two thousand five hundred people currently and a wait time
3 of one year for some applicants for services; and

4 WHEREAS, eighty-nine percent of AARP members have indicated that they want
5 to stay in their own homes and communities as long as possible; and

6 WHEREAS, challenges exist in financing long term care under the Medicaid
7 program and in balancing funding to ensure access to needed services; and

8 WHEREAS, the state has commenced efforts to rebalance its long term care system
9 to provide greater access to noninstitutional home- and community-based alternatives with
10 a goal of helping people to remain in their homes and communities; and

11 WHEREAS, in less than twenty years, Louisiana's population above the age of
12 sixty-five is expected to grow by over eighty percent as Baby Boomers advance in age.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
14 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby continue the Study Group on Long Term Care
15 Financing through final adjournment of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of
16 Louisiana.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall examine funding and
18 reimbursement of long term services and supports, and shall make recommendations
19 relative to funding options that facilitate access by Louisianians to such services and
20 supports across the continuum of care.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall be composed of the
22 following members:

23 (1) The president of Louisiana Enhancing Aging With Dignity through
24 Empowerment and Respect (LEADER) or his designee.

25 (2) The chairperson of the Coalition for Choice to Advance Long Term Care Options
26 in Louisiana or his designee.

27 (3) The director of the Louisiana Budget Project or his designee.

28 (4) The executive director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association or his
29 designee.

30 (5) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.

1 (6) The assistant secretary of the office of aging and adult services of the
2 Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.

3 (7) The assistant secretary of the office for citizens with developmental disabilities
4 of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.

5 (8) The director of the bureau of health services financing of the Department of
6 Health and Hospitals or his designee.

7 (9) The state director of AARP Louisiana or his designee.

8 (10) The president of the Advocacy Center or his designee.

9 (11) The executive director of the Louisiana Assisted Living Association or his
10 designee.

11 (12) A consumer of long term care services appointed by the secretary of the
12 Department of Health and Hospitals.

13 (13) The president of Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana or his designee.

14 (14) The president of LeadingAge Gulf States or his designee.

15 (15) A nurse practitioner with a geriatric specialty appointed by the president of the
16 Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners.

17 (16) A home- and community-based services provider appointed by the secretary of
18 the Department of Health and Hospitals.

19 (17) The director of the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs or his designee.

20 (18) A member of the House Committee on Health and Welfare appointed by the
21 chairman of the committee.

22 (19) The president of the Louisiana Council on Aging Directors Association or his
23 designee.

24 (20) The president of the Louisiana Aging Network Association or his designee.

25 (21) The executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care Association.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Department of Health and
27 Hospitals shall issue the invitation for the initial meeting of the study group no later than
28 August 16, 2013.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the study group shall serve
2 without compensation, except per diem or expense reimbursement to which they may be
3 individually entitled by their respective employer organizations.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the study group shall elect one
5 member to serve as chairman and one member to serve as vice chairman of the group.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all departments, boards, agencies, officers, and
7 institutions of the state and its subdivisions are hereby authorized and requested to cooperate
8 with the study group in providing information to assist the group in carrying out its mission.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the study group are hereby
10 authorized and requested to contribute to information gathering, research, analysis,
11 facilitation, communication, decisionmaking, report writing, administration of the study
12 group process, or any combination of these functions.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall examine financing options
14 for long term services and supports, including but not limited to Medicaid funds, provider
15 fees, provider reimbursements, federal grant opportunities, tax incentives, and Medicare cost
16 sharing.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the framework for analysis shall be based on
18 areas of study recommended in the 2013 report issued by the study group.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall submit a written report of
20 its recommendations to the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana on or
21 before March 14, 2014.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
23 president of LEADER, the chairperson of the Coalition for Choice to Advance Long Term
24 Care Options in Louisiana, the director of the Louisiana Budget Project, the executive
25 director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association, the secretary of the Department of
26 Health and Hospitals, the state director of AARP Louisiana, the executive director of the
27 Advocacy Center, the executive director of the Louisiana Assisted Living Association, the
28 president of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, the president of LeadingAge
29 Gulf States, the president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners, the director
30 of the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs, the president of the Louisiana Council on Aging

- 1 Directors Association, the president of the Louisiana Aging Network Association, and the
 - 2 executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care Association.
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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)]

Simon

HR No. 185

Continues and provides with respect to the Study Group on Long Term Care Financing. Requests the study group to conduct an analysis of funding for long term services and supports with the goal of increasing options across the continuum of care for La. residents.