Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 185

BY REPRESENTATIVE SIMON

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
21	WHEREAS, Medicaid also finances the Adult Day Health Care Waiver program,
22	which has a waiting list of over two thousand five hundred people currently and a wait time
23	of one year for some applicants for services; and
24	WHEREAS, eighty-nine percent of AARP members have indicated that they want
25	to stay in their own homes and communities as long as possible; and

1	WHEREAS, challenges exist in financing long term care under the Medicaid
2	program and in balancing funding to ensure access to needed services; and
3	WHEREAS, the state has commenced efforts to rebalance its long term care system
4	to provide greater access to noninstitutional home- and community-based alternatives with
5	a goal of helping people to remain in their homes and communities; and
6	WHEREAS, in less than twenty years, Louisiana's population above the age of
7	sixty-five is expected to grow by over eighty percent as Baby Boomers advance in age.
8	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
9	Legislature of Louisiana does hereby continue the Study Group on Long Term Care
10	Financing through final adjournment of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of
11	Louisiana.
12	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall examine funding and
13	reimbursement of long term services and supports, and shall make recommendations
14	relative to funding options that facilitate access by Louisianians to such services and
15	supports across the continuum of care.
16	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall be composed of the
17	following members:
18	(1) The president of Louisiana Enhancing Aging With Dignity through
19	Empowerment and Respect (LEADER) or his designee.
20	(2) The chairperson of the Coalition for Choice to Advance Long Term Care Options
21	in Louisiana or his designee.
22	(3) The director of the Louisiana Budget Project or his designee.
23	(4) The executive director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association or his
24	designee.
25	(5) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.
26	(6) The assistant secretary of the office of aging and adult services of the
27	Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.
28	(7) The assistant secretary of the office for citizens with developmental disabilities
29	of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.
30	(8) The director of the bureau of health services financing of the Department of
31	Health and Hospitals or his designee.

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

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2	(10) The president of the Advocacy Center or his designee.
3	(11) The executive director of the Louisiana Assisted Living Association or his
4	designee.
5	(12) A consumer of long term care services appointed by the secretary of the
6	Department of Health and Hospitals.
7	(13) The president of Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana or his designee.
8	(14) The president of LeadingAge Gulf States or his designee.
9	(15) A nurse practitioner with a geriatric specialty appointed by the president of the
10	Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners.
11	(16) A home- and community-based services provider appointed by the secretary of
12	the Department of Health and Hospitals.
13	(17) The director of the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs or his designee.
14	(18) A member of the House Committee on Health and Welfare appointed by the
15	chairman of the committee.
16	(19) The president of the Louisiana Council on Aging Directors Association or his
17	designee.
18	(20) The president of the Louisiana Aging Network Association or his designee.
19	(21) The executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care Association.
20	(22) A member to be appointed by the president of the Louisiana Hospital
21	Association.
22	(23) The executive director of the Community and Residential Services Association
23	(CARSA) or his designee.
24	(24) The president of the Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association or his
25	designee.
26	(25) The government relations director of the American Cancer Society Cancer
27	Action Network.
28	(26) A member to be appointed by the Louisiana Chapter of the National Multiple
29	Sclerosis Society.
30	(27) The president of the Louisiana Adult Day Services Association or his designee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of LEADER, the chairperson of the Coalition for Choice to Advance Long Term Care Options in Louisiana, the director of the Louisiana Budget Project, the executive director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association, the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, the state director of AARP Louisiana, the executive director of the Advocacy Center, the executive director of the Louisiana Assisted Living Association, the president of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, the president of LeadingAge

Gulf States, the president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners, the director of the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs, the president of the Louisiana Council on Aging Directors Association, the president of the Louisiana Aging Network Association, the executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care Association, the president of the Louisiana Hospital Association, the executive director of the Community and Residential Services Association (CARSA), the president of the Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association, the government relations director of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, the Louisiana Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and the president of the Louisiana Adult Day Services Association.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES