

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 86

BY REPRESENTATIVE SIMON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To establish a study committee on family caregiving and long-term supports and services, and to direct the committee to report recommendations for legislative and administrative actions to support family caregivers to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

WHEREAS, the number of persons in this state who are eighty-five years of age or older and most likely to need caregiving assistance is projected to surpass one hundred twenty-six thousand by 2030; and

WHEREAS, almost all older adults who need assistance with activities of daily living wish to remain in their homes and communities as they age; and

WHEREAS, providing services and supports to older adults in their homes and communities is generally much less expensive than nursing home care; and

WHEREAS, older adults who receive services from caregivers in their homes are much less likely to need public assistance; and

WHEREAS, almost three-fourths of older people living in the community who receive personal assistance rely exclusively on unpaid caregivers for help; and

WHEREAS, an estimated six hundred twenty-seven thousand family caregivers in Louisiana provide care to adult relatives or friends, with the economic value of this care estimated to be roughly five billion seven hundred million dollars annually; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana ranks thirty-seventh in the nation for support of unpaid family caregivers; and

WHEREAS, to successfully accommodate the surging population of older adults who have significant needs for long-term services and supports, this state must implement policies to encourage and support families in assisting their aging relatives, and institute best practices for recruiting and retaining a qualified, responsive in-home care workforce.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish a study committee on family caregiving and long-term supports and services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study committee shall be composed of the following members:

- (1) One member representing the Louisiana Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.
- (2) One member representing the office of aging and adult services of the Department of Health and Hospitals.
- (3) One member representing AARP Louisiana.
- (4) One member representing the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network.
- (5) One member representing the Louisiana-Mississippi Chapter of the ALS Association.
- (6) One member representing the Louisiana State University School of Social Work.
- (7) One member representing the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.
- (8) One member representing the Louisiana Hospital Association.
- (9) One member representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry.
- (10) One member representing the Louisiana Councils On Aging.
- (11) One member representing eQHealth Solutions.
- (12) One member representing the interests of healthcare consumers appointed by the attorney general.
- (13) One member representing the governor's office of elderly affairs.
- (14) One member representing the Louisiana Nursing Home Association.
- (15) One member representing the Advocacy Center.
- (16) One member representing the HomeCare Association of Louisiana.
- (17) One member representing the Louisiana Assisted Living Association.
- (18) One member representing LeadingAge Gulf States.
- (19) The Louisiana-Mississippi Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.
- (20) One member representing NAMI Louisiana.
- (21) A caregiver appointed by the executive director of the Advocacy Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at its initial meeting, the study committee members shall elect a chairperson, and shall adopt rules of procedure and any other policies as may be necessary to facilitate the work of the group.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the functions of the study committee shall include, without limitation, the following:

- (1) Identifying policies, resources, and programs available for family caregivers.
- (2) Promoting innovative and creative means to support the ability of family caregivers to provide needed in-home support for older adults.
- (3) Soliciting input and perspective on policies and practices relative to family caregiving including designation of caregivers, training requirements, respite services, medical leave policies, delegation of tasks to non-medical aides, and other policies supporting quality in-home care.
- (4) Compiling an inventory of resources available to family caregivers in this state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study committee shall submit a written report of recommendations for legislative and administrative actions to support family caregivers to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on or before January 31, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislative authority for the study committee shall terminate thirty days after the convening of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the executive director of the Louisiana Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, the state director of AARP Louisiana, the Louisiana grassroots manager of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, the executive director of the Louisiana-Mississippi Chapter of the ALS Association, the director of the Louisiana State University School of Social Work, the dean of the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Hospital Association, the president of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, the director of the governor's office of elderly affairs, the chief executive officer of eQHealth Solutions, the attorney general, the executive director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association, the executive director of the Advocacy Center, the chief executive officer of the HomeCare

Association of Louisiana, the executive director of the Louisiana Assisted Living Association, the president of the board of directors of LeadingAge Gulf States, the executive director of the Louisiana-Mississippi Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, and the executive director of NAMI Louisiana.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE