

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 107

BY REPRESENTATIVE HAZEL

HEALTH/DHH: Urges and requests the Department of Health and Hospitals to study Medicaid reimbursement and recoupment processes with respect to payments to nonemergency medical transportation providers

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study Medicaid
3 reimbursement and recoupment processes with respect to payments to nonemergency
4 medical transportation providers, and to take all actions as are necessary to resolve
5 problems related to improperly recouped payments to these providers and to ensure
6 that such problems do not recur.

7 WHEREAS, over one million three hundred thousand Louisiana residents are
8 enrolled in the Medicaid program; and

9 WHEREAS, the ability to travel to a healthcare provider's location is essential for
10 Medicaid enrollees to receive needed care; and

11 WHEREAS, some Medicaid enrollees do not have access to reliable private
12 transportation and must rely on public transportation for travel to and from medical
13 appointments; and

14 WHEREAS, due to changes to the state Medicaid program and privatization of the
15 state's public hospitals, the existing public transportation options may no longer provide
16 Medicaid enrollees with sufficient access to healthcare providers; and

17 WHEREAS, dependence on inadequate transportation reduces access to routine,
18 preventative, and other nonemergency medical services; and

1 WHEREAS, reduced access can lead to poor health outcomes, particularly for those
2 who have chronic conditions and multiple diseases, as well as those who stand to benefit
3 from screening, prevention, and health promotion services; and

4 WHEREAS, great opportunity exists for the state to achieve net societal benefits and
5 to improve the quality of life of Medicaid enrollees by assisting with access to
6 nonemergency medical transportation; and

7 WHEREAS, Medicaid healthcare services providers increasingly face the prospect
8 of losing revenue to recoupment, a process which may include the reduction of
9 reimbursements to make up for alleged overpayments on prior claims; and

10 WHEREAS, recoupments can create accounting problems and negatively impact
11 financial projections; and

12 WHEREAS, Medicaid healthcare services providers, including nonemergency
13 medical transportation providers, may be forced out of business or leave the state if
14 subjected to multiple recoupments which can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars; and

15 WHEREAS, assessing the issues surrounding the recoupment of Medicaid
16 reimbursements is paramount to maintaining a robust and sustainable medical assistance
17 program; and

18 WHEREAS, federal regulations require state Medicaid programs to ensure that
19 recipients have necessary medical transportation to and from covered Medicaid services.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
21 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Health and
22 Hospitals to study Medicaid reimbursement and recoupment processes with respect to
23 payments to nonemergency medical transportation providers, and to take all actions as are
24 necessary to resolve problems related to improperly recouped payments to these providers
25 and to ensure that such problems do not recur.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall report its findings and
27 policy recommendations to the House of Representatives no later than sixty days prior to the
28 beginning of the 2017 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
30 secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.

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)]

HR 107 Original

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Hazel

Urges and requests the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH) to study Medicaid reimbursement and recoupment processes with respect to payments to nonemergency medical transportation providers, and to take all actions as are necessary to resolve problems related to improperly recouped payments to these providers and to ensure that such problems do not recur.

Requires DHH to report its findings and policy recommendations to the House of Representatives no later than 60 days prior to the beginning of the 2017 R.S.