



1           WHEREAS, ensuring that the current disability services system is operating in the  
2 most efficient and effective manner, and reinvesting cost savings to enhance provider  
3 reimbursement rates is essential to sustainability of the system.

4           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health  
6 to convene a Disability Services Sustainability Committee, referred to hereafter as the  
7 "committee".

8           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee be composed of the following  
9 members:

- 10           (1) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.
- 11           (2) The executive director of the Community Provider Association or his designee.
- 12           (3) The executive director of The Arc of Louisiana or his designee.
- 13           (4) The executive director of the Supported Living Network or his designee.
- 14           (5) The executive director of People First of Louisiana or his designee.
- 15           (6) One representative of a local governmental entity appointed by the Human  
16 Services Interagency Council.
- 17           (7) The president of the Support Coordination Alliance or his designee.

18           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the member representing the Louisiana  
19 Department of Health serve as the chairperson of the committee.

20           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee adopt rules of procedure and any  
21 other policies as may be necessary to facilitate the work of the group.

22           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the functions and purposes of the committee  
23 include, without limitation, all of the following:

- 24           (1) To identify and implement potential efficiencies and cost-saving strategies.
- 25           (2) To identify issues impacting the solvency of the disability services provider  
26 network, and to recommend means for immediate resolution of such issues whenever  
27 feasible.
- 28           (3) To develop a long-term plan for the disability services system which includes  
29 recommendations for legislative and administrative actions necessary to ensure sustainability  
30 of the system.

1 (4) To submit quarterly reports to the legislature.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the quarterly reports of the committee include,  
3 without limitation, all of the following information:

4 (1) Information concerning billing, including identification of the current billing and  
5 payment processes for HCBS, ICF, and case management agencies, as well as strategies for  
6 streamlining these processes.

7 (2) Information concerning rate methodologies, including evaluation of the current  
8 reimbursement methodology for HCBS, ICF, and case management agencies to ensure that  
9 it takes into consideration not only current costs, but additional factors necessary to build a  
10 high-quality and stable workforce.

11 (3) Information concerning emergency protocols, including protocols for what  
12 constitutes an emergency; identification of the roles and responsibilities of the Louisiana  
13 Department of Health, human services districts and authorities, case management agencies,  
14 other provider agencies, and individuals and families during an emergency; and  
15 recommendations relative to automatic waiving of regulations under certain emergency  
16 situations.

17 (4) Information concerning Medicaid audits, investigations, and monitoring,  
18 including analyses of all audits, investigations, and monitoring of HCBS, ICF, and case  
19 management agencies to avoid duplication of efforts; identification of gaps in the system  
20 where monitoring, audits, or investigations are not being conducted; clear identification of  
21 expectations of provider agencies during an audit or investigation; and a written definition  
22 of what constitutes an audit finding and the related penalty or fine associated with the  
23 finding.

24 (5) Information concerning unfunded mandates, including identification of unfunded  
25 mandates for HCBS, ICF, and case management agencies; strategies for eliminating  
26 unnecessary unfunded mandates; and recommendations for minimizing the financial impact  
27 of each mandate.

28 (6) Information concerning abuse and neglect training, including identification of  
29 current abuse and neglect training requirements for department staff, and recommendations  
30 to ensure that abuse and neglect determinations are appropriate and consistent statewide.

1 (7) Information concerning cost reporting, including mandatory cost reporting by  
2 HCBS to verify expenditures, and recommendations for ensuring that such reports include  
3 cost factors necessary to build a competent and stable direct support workforce.

4 (8) Information concerning background checks and onboarding costs, including  
5 identification of current background check requirements and other onboarding costs and  
6 strategies for securing federal matching funds to cover these expenditures.

7 (9) Information concerning case management and support coordination, including  
8 the status of action items identified in the report issued in January of 2012 pursuant to Act  
9 No. 299 of the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature, and recommendations to streamline  
10 case management processes.

11 (10) Information concerning electronic visit verification (EVV), including  
12 identification of the actual cost to providers for implementing EVV and the total amount of  
13 cost savings and cost avoidance resulting from EVV implementation.

14 (11) Information concerning the plan of care approval process, including an analysis  
15 of the current process and strategies to streamline that process.

16 (12) Information concerning new technology-based solutions which would help the  
17 disability services system operate more efficiently.

18 (13) Information concerning fraud, waste, and abuse, including identification of  
19 potential risk areas for fraud, waste, and abuse; and strategies to eliminate or minimize fraud,  
20 waste and abuse.

21 (14) Information concerning provider manuals, including identification of manuals  
22 that contain outdated or inaccurate information (e.g. the Case Management Manual and  
23 Certified Medication Attendant Training Manual); the status of necessary updates to such  
24 manuals; and recommendations for a process to keep such manuals current.

25 (15) Information concerning written policies and procedures, including identification  
26 of all procedures that providers are expected to comply with but are not officially  
27 documented in rule, regulation, policy, procedures, guidelines, manuals, or any other  
28 publication of the Louisiana Department of Health; an update on development of written  
29 procedures; and strategies to ensure that all expected procedures are officially documented  
30 in writing and disseminated to all disability services providers.

1 (16) Information concerning any other factor related to the efficiency and  
2 effectiveness of the disability services system.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Louisiana Department of  
4 Health shall take such actions as are necessary to ensure that the first meeting of the  
5 committee occurs no later than July 15, 2017.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee meet upon the call of the  
7 chairperson or upon request of a majority of the members of the committee.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health provide  
9 staff support for all meetings of the committee.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee submit written reports of its  
11 findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Health and Welfare on a  
12 quarterly basis.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislative authority for the committee shall  
14 terminate thirty days after the convening of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature of  
15 Louisiana.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
17 Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the executive director of the Community  
18 Provider Association, the executive director of The Arc of Louisiana, the executive director  
19 of the Supported Living Network, the executive director of People First of Louisiana, the  
20 president of the Support Coordination Alliance, and the executive director of each human  
21 services district and authority of the state.

---

#### 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 211 Original

2017 Regular Session

Hoffmann

Urges and requests the La. Dept. of Health to convene a Disability Services Sustainability Committee (hereafter, "committee") composed of the following members:

- (1) The secretary of the La. Dept. of Health or his designee.
- (2) The executive director of the Community Provider Association or his designee.
- (3) The executive director of The Arc of Louisiana or his designee.

- (4) The executive director of the Supported Living Network or his designee.
- (5) The executive director of People First of Louisiana or his designee.
- (6) One representative of a local governmental entity appointed by the Human Services Interagency Council.
- (7) The president of the Support Coordination Alliance or his designee.

Requests that the committee convene on or before July 15, 2017; meet upon the call of the chairperson or upon request of a majority of committee members; and submit quarterly reports to the House Committee on Health and Welfare concerning topics and with recommendations relating to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Medicaid disability services system.

Provides that legislative authority for the committee shall terminate 30 days after the convening of the 2020 R.S.