

2018 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 122

BY SENATOR BARROW

HEALTH SERVICES. Continues and provides with respect to the task force to study steps in addressing healthcare delivery from the Baton Rouge Health Services Task Force.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To continue and provide with respect to the task force to study health services delivery and
3 financing in the Baton Rouge region created by House Concurrent Resolution No.
4 129 of the 2015 Regular Session of the Legislature and continued by Senate
5 Concurrent Resolution No. 4 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature.

6 WHEREAS, through Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4 of the 2016 Regular
7 Session, the legislature continued the establishment of a task force to study health services
8 delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region; and

9 WHEREAS, the task force is composed of nineteen members who individually and
10 collectively possess significant expertise in major aspects of the state's healthcare system,
11 such as direct provision of health services, healthcare financing, development of a healthcare
12 workforce, and public health advocacy; and

13 WHEREAS, since its inception, the task force has held regular public meetings to
14 examine issues related to health services delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region
15 including without limitation the following:

- 16 (1) Barriers to access to healthcare faced by low- to moderate-income persons.
17 (2) Impacts of cuts to federal disproportionate share hospital funding provided
18 through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that finance expansion of Medicaid

1 programs of states which elect to participate in Medicaid expansion.

2 (3) Effects on public health of the closure of the state-operated public hospital in
3 Baton Rouge and privatization of the services formerly delivered there.

4 (4) Impacts on private hospitals which do not operate under a cooperative endeavor
5 agreement with the state of providing uncompensated care.

6 (5) Policies which could expand the capacity of public and private urgent care clinics
7 to meet the healthcare needs of medically underserved populations; and

8 WHEREAS, considering the profound changes in healthcare delivery and financing
9 in Baton Rouge that have occurred in the past several years, dramatically impacting access
10 to care in the city and surrounding region, the efforts of this task force are vitally important
11 at present and will remain so in the near term; and

12 WHEREAS, as evidenced by final passage of House Bill No. 1493 of the 2010
13 Regular Session requiring reports to the legislature relative to privatization of services of the
14 Earl K. Long Medical Center, which was the first of nine hospitals in the state's ten-hospital
15 system to be privatized, and by extensive debate concerning the state health system in every
16 session since 2010, the legislature continues to express deep concern about the fiscal and
17 public health consequences of hospital privatization since the outset of the privatization
18 efforts; and

19 WHEREAS, these circumstances are of serious concern to policymakers at the city,
20 regional, and state level; and

21 WHEREAS, for the foregoing reasons, continuation of the task force's efforts is a
22 priority of the legislature.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
24 continue the task force to study and make recommendations concerning health services
25 delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region created by House Concurrent Resolution
26 No. 129 of the 2015 Regular Session and continued by Senate Concurrent Resolution No.
27 4 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative authority for the task force shall
29 continue through December 31, 2019.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership and purposes of the task force

1 shall continue as provided in House Concurrent Resolution No. 129 of the 2015 Regular
2 Session and continued by Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4 of the 2016 Regular Session
3 of the Legislature.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a report to the senate
5 and house committees on health and welfare on or before December 31, 2018, outlining the
6 work and recommendations of the task force to date and providing a plan for ongoing study
7 of the issue of health services delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a report to the senate
9 and house committees on health and welfare on or before the termination date of the task
10 force on December 31, 2019, with final recommendations of the task force regarding the
11 issue of health services delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
13 mayor-president of East Baton Rouge Parish, the chief executive officer of the Baton Rouge
14 Area Foundation, the chief executive officer of Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical
15 Center, the chief executive officer of the Baton Rouge General Health System, the chief
16 executive officer of Lane Regional Medical Center, the chief executive officer of Ochsner
17 Health System, the coroner of East Baton Rouge Parish, the administrator of East Baton
18 Rouge Parish Emergency Medical Services, the chief executive officer of the Baton Rouge
19 Area Chamber, the president of the Louisiana AFL-CIO, the lead organizer of Together
20 Baton Rouge, the president of the Capital Area Medical Society, the president of the
21 Campaign for Healthcare for Everyone - Louisiana, the president of the Louisiana Center for
22 Health Equity, and the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

DIGEST

SCR 122 Original

2018 Regular Session

Barrow

Continues the task force to study health services delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region created by HCR 129 of the 2015 Regular Session and continued by SCR 4 of the 2016 Regular Session until December 31, 2019.

Requires the task force to submit a report to the senate and house committees on health and welfare on or before December 31, 2018, outlining the work and recommendations of the task force to date and providing a plan for ongoing study of the issue of health services delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region.

Requires the task force to submit a report to the senate and house committees on health and welfare on or before the termination date of the task force on December 31, 2019, with final recommendations of the task force regarding the issue of health services delivery and financing in the Baton Rouge region.