SLS 19RS-1182 **ORIGINAL**

2019 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 78

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

HEALTH SERVICES. Requests the Louisiana State Board of Nursing and the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners to report on the number of advanced practice registered nurses and the number of physician assistants that provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in Louisiana.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana State Board of Nursing and the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners to report on the number of advanced practice registered nurses and the number of physician assistants that provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2016, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) was enacted as Public Law 114-198, in an effort to authorize additional treatment options to battle the opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, one of CARA's important provisions expanded authority to advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and physician assistants (PAs) to provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT), which includes the provision of substance abuse treatment services and overdose reversal medications and extending the privilege of prescribing buprenorphine under certain regulatory restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, has established eligibility for APRNs and PAs to participate in MAT, including twenty-four hours of approved initial training and submission of a United States Drug Enforcement Administration waiver application; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has been availing itself of every possible resource to battle

the opioid crisis, including provision of MAT services allowed pursuant to federal law; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Board of Nursing regulates APRNs and the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners regulates PAs; and

WHEREAS, monitoring our efforts in battling the opioid crisis will better equip the regulatory bodies and the Louisiana Department of Health in overall opioid crisis management.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request the Louisiana State Board of Nursing and the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners to report on the number of advanced practice registered nurses and the number of physician assistants that provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that annually, beginning on February 1, 2020, the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners and the Louisiana State Board of Nursing shall issue a written report to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, the chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, and to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, to include the number of APRNs and PAs who were certified to provide MAT services for the prior calendar year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to the extent the information is reasonably obtainable, the two boards shall also report the number of APRNs and PAs certified to provide MAT services who are presently treating patients for opioid addiction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, the executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, 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 78 Original 2019 Regular Session Boudreaux

Requests the La. State Board of Nursing and the La. State Board of Medical Examiners to submit an annual report, beginning February 1, 2020, on the number of APRNs and PAs that are certified to provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in Louisiana.