

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARMES

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to study the benefits and costs associated with online delivery of certain training required for medication attendants and to report findings of the study to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

WHEREAS, current state law, R.S. 37:1022, authorizes nonlicensed personnel who have successfully completed and passed a required drug administration course to administer oral medication, ointments, and suppositories to the following persons:

(1) Residents of facilities operated by the office for citizens with developmental disabilities of the Louisiana Department of Health.

(2) Residents of certain community homes for persons with developmental disabilities.

(3) Persons receiving certain in-home Medicaid-funded services; and

WHEREAS, persons who have successfully completed the required drug administration course and passed a qualifying examination become state-certified as medication attendants; and

WHEREAS, state law presently does not specify means by which training for medication attendants may be delivered, and all such training is currently delivered in a live, in-person format; and

WHEREAS, evidence suggests that medication attendant education and training can be delivered with a high degree of effectiveness in web-based formats; and

WHEREAS, notable examples of state-approved online education for health professionals include web-based curricula for baccalaureate and associate degrees in nursing.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to study the benefits and costs associated with online delivery of certain training required for medication attendants.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the only types of courses for medication attendants that the study requested in this Resolution shall consider for potential online delivery shall be those designated as classroom theory and re-certification courses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the study called for in this Resolution, the department shall engage and obtain information and recommendations from at least two certified medication attendants and at least two providers of medication attendant training.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall issue a written report of findings from the study called for in this Resolution to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare no later than sixty days prior to the convening of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE