

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 291

BY REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to study the changes necessary to increase access to outpatient substance use treatment, including medication-assisted treatment (MAT), as well as recommendations for creating sustainable incentives and supports for providers to serve as office-based opioid agonist treatment providers and to report the findings of the study to the House Committee on Health and Welfare on or before March 1, 2020.

WHEREAS, regular outpatient rehabilitation treatment focuses on providing patients with access to care and support for addiction recovery in a nonresidential setting; and

WHEREAS, typically those entering outpatient substance abuse treatment have already completed a residential program or received treatment through an intensive outpatient or partial hospitalization treatment program or facility; and

WHEREAS, outpatient substance abuse treatment provides those recovering from addiction with much-needed support as they transition back into their everyday lives; and

WHEREAS, relapse is most common right after an individual exits residential treatment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to study the changes necessary to increase access to outpatient substance use treatment, including medication-assisted treatment (MAT), as well as recommendations for creating sustainable incentives and supports for providers to serve as office-based opioid agonist treatment providers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the study shall consider all of the following:

(1) Preferred provider designation: establish a designation of high-quality care for outpatient substance use disorder services. This designation should include practices that, at a minimum, include a buprenorphine-waivered physician who can prescribe buprenorphine and naltrexone in a variety of office-based practice settings and opioid treatment providers, which have onsite partnerships with behavioral health practitioners who provide counseling to patients receiving MAT.

(2) Payment for care coordination services: explore Medicaid reimbursement for care coordination to preferred outpatient providers that provide buprenorphine induction and maintenance and behavioral health counseling either onsite, or through partnerships. Care coordinators should be expected to establish referral networks with providers of all American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) levels of care, physical health providers, obstetrician-gynecologists, and to support patients in accessing needed recovery supports. Also, explore Medicaid reimbursement for care coordination to facilitate emergency department initiation of MAT and transition to community-based care upon release.

(3) Evaluation of reimbursement rates: rates for services associated with delivering MAT should be reviewed and compared to commercial rates. Rates for assessment, induction, and maintenance, and behavioral health counseling should be sufficient to encourage provider participation.

(4) Statewide provider education and outreach: provide education about changes made to engage providers in the treatment of opioid use disorder. This shall include training and outreach in partnership with local governing entities and statewide provider associations that include MAT-specific courses, buprenorphine waiver training, integration of the ASAM criteria, and establishing billing practices for Medicaid reimbursement.

(5) Value-based purchasing: implementation of value-based purchasing in the Medicaid managed care contracts to provide funding to hospitals that employ case management teams or other measures to reduce substance use disorder-related hospital readmissions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study be completed and a written report be submitted to the House Committee on Health and Welfare on or before March 1, 2020.

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