HLS 20RS-1579 REENGROSSED

2020 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 74

## BY REPRESENTATIVES SCHEXNAYDER AND GAROFALO

HEALTH: Requests that CARES Act funding be made available to the state for testing and be distributed to healthcare systems

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the state of Louisiana through the Louisiana Department of Health, or
3	any other state agency as may be deemed appropriate, to provide funding from the
4	CARES Act, P.L.116-136, or any additional federal funding to Louisiana private
5	healthcare systems for COVID-19 testing and to report the proposed distribution to
6	the legislature by June 1, 2020.
7	WHEREAS, the United States Congress and the president of the United States are
8	providing support to healthcare providers fighting the COVID-19 pandemic through
9	CARES Act funding and the various programs the act created; and
10	WHEREAS, such funding will be used to support healthcare-related expenses or lost
11	revenue in healthcare systems attributable to COVID-19; and
12	WHEREAS, recognizing the particular impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had
13	on healthcare systems in Louisiana, the legislature is extremely concerned about the
14	economic harm resulting from this impact; and
15	WHEREAS, increased access to COVID-19 testing and COVID-19 antibody testing
16	is vital to protect the public health and safety of the Louisiana people; and
17	WHEREAS, funding provided through the CARES Act is intended to help health
18	systems across America continue to battle COVID-19 and expand capacity for the vital
19	functions of testing and containment.
20	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
21	urge and request the state of Louisiana through the Louisiana Department of Health, or any

- 1 other state agency as may be deemed appropriate, to use funding provided to Louisiana by
- 2 the CARES Act, P.L. 116-136, including but not limited to a portion of the approximately
- 3 one billion eight hundred million dollars received through the Coronavirus Relief Fund, or
- 4 any additional federal funding to support Louisiana's private sector healthcare systems as
- 5 they seek to establish a robust COVID-19 testing infrastructure.
- 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before June 1, 2020, the Louisiana
- 7 Department of Health, shall report the proposed distribution of funding called for in this
- 8 Resolution to the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Finance,
- 9 the House Committee on Health and Welfare, the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare,
- and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
- 12 governor and the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

## **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)]

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Schexnayder

Requests the La. Dept. of Health, or other appropriate agency as deemed necessary, to provide funding from the CARES Act or any additional federal funding to La. private healthcare systems for COVID-19 testing and report the data on the proposed distribution of funding to the legislature.

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Appropriations</u> to the original bill:

- 1. Expand requested funding to include any additional federal funding.
- 2. Change the request <u>from</u> expediting the distribution of funding to La. healthcare systems <u>to</u> providing funding to La. private healthcare systems for COVID-19 testing.
- 3. Remove language terminating legislative authority for the request.
- 4. Make technical changes.

## The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove the reference to contact tracing.