

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 57

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to collect data on Medicaid enrollees with private insurance or offers of employer-sponsored health coverage and to report such data to the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Finance, and the legislative committees on health and welfare at regular intervals.

WHEREAS, with respect to healthcare coverage, the term "crowd-out" describes situations in which publicly-funded coverage is substituted for coverage that is, or would have been, financed privately; and

WHEREAS, according to figures derived from a 2016 study by the Urban Institute of the nineteen states that had refused, as of that time, to expand their Medicaid programs as provided in the Affordable Care Act, over sixty percent of individuals who would become eligible for public coverage through Medicaid expansion in those states already had private health coverage through federal and state insurance exchanges, employer-sponsored plans, or other sources; and

WHEREAS, private health insurance typically offers enrollees greater access to care than does Medicaid, and health outcomes among persons with private coverage are superior to those of Medicaid enrollees; and

WHEREAS, since Medicaid expansion took effect in this state on July 1, 2016, through an executive order, tens of thousands of Louisianans have dropped private health insurance coverage in order to enroll in Medicaid, costing the program in excess of one hundred forty-five million dollars per year; and

WHEREAS, a request by the legislature for regular reports on the problem of crowd-out in Louisiana Medicaid would serve the interest of greater transparency in that program and facilitate a better understanding of the true costs and impacts of the problem.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to collect data on Medicaid enrollees with private insurance or offers of employer-sponsored health coverage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall obtain such data by inquiring with potential Medicaid enrollees about their private health insurance status and participation in, or offers of, employer-sponsored insurance at both the time of their application and the time of their eligibility redetermination.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before November 1, 2020, and quarterly thereafter, the Louisiana Department of Health shall report such data to the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Finance, 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 the first report due pursuant to this Resolution shall feature data from the first quarter of State Fiscal Year 2020-2021, and the ensuing quarterly reports shall cover subsequent State Fiscal Year quarters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislative authority for the request provided for in this Resolution shall terminate on August 1, 2022.

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