

2020 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 76

BY SENATOR BARROW

HEALTH SERVICES. Urges and requests the Louisiana Department of Health to collect data regarding the age, race, and gender of Louisiana residents who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic or any future public health emergency.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to collect data regarding the age,  
3 race, and gender of Louisiana residents who are impacted by the COVID-19  
4 pandemic or any future public health emergency.

5 WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus named "coronavirus disease 2019", commonly  
6 referred to as COVID-19, was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province China, in  
7 December of 2019; and

8 WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that has a broad range of symptoms  
9 from mild, flu-like symptoms to severe breathing difficulties that result in death; and

10 WHEREAS, the first confirmed instance of person-to-person spread of the virus in  
11 the United States was recorded on January 30, 2020; and

12 WHEREAS, on the same day the World Health Organization declared the outbreak  
13 "a public health emergency of international concern"; and

14 WHEREAS, the rapid spread of COVID-19 lead the World Health Organization to  
15 upgrade its declaration to a "global pandemic" on March 11, 2020; and

16 WHEREAS, since the first presumptive case relating to the COVID-19 pandemic in  
17 Louisiana was announced on March 9, 2020, cases have been confirmed in all sixty-four  
18 parishes of the state, and Governor John Bel Edwards has issued multiple proclamations and

1 orders aimed at preventing and reducing the spread of the virus; and

2 WHEREAS, the impact of the coronavirus in Louisiana is widespread and ongoing,  
3 with both immediate and potentially long-term risk to the life, health, and well-being of all  
4 Louisiana residents; and

5 WHEREAS, throughout this time, the Louisiana Department of Health has tracked  
6 and updated on a daily basis the number of confirmed cases in the state, as well as the  
7 number of COVID-19-related deaths, and the number of tests performed and completed; and

8 WHEREAS, state leaders require adequate data to determine if the impact of a public  
9 health emergency has not fallen equitably among Louisianians but has created a  
10 disproportionate burden among certain populations.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
12 does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to collect data from  
13 reporting health care providers or other persons regarding the age, race, and gender of  
14 Louisiana residents who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic or any future public  
15 health emergency.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall notify all Louisiana-  
17 licensed health care providers to submit demographic data to include race, age, and gender  
18 to the department for all of their patients who are Louisiana residents and test positive for  
19 COVID-19 in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that health care providers are urged to be responsive  
21 to the department and submit the requested demographic data including race, age, and  
22 gender to the department for all of their patients who are Louisiana residents and test  
23 positive for COVID-19.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon collecting a complete data set, the  
25 department shall establish and maintain on its internet website a link to this data that is easily  
26 accessible by the public.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
28 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 Brandi Cannon.

---

SR 76 Original

DIGEST  
2020 Regular Session

Barrow

Requests the La. Dept. of Health to collect data regarding the age, race, and gender of Louisiana residents who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic or any future public health emergency.