

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUPLESSIS

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To direct the office of behavioral health of the Louisiana Department of Health to collect

3 data to show the total cost associated with individuals with chronic untreated and

4 under-treated serious mental illnesses and substance use disorders moving through

5 various systems of crisis care and to report such data to certain legislative

6 committees.

7 WHEREAS, the office of behavioral health of the Louisiana Department of Health

8 (LDH) manages and delivers the services and supports necessary to improve the quality of

9 life for citizens with mental illness and addictive disorders; and

10 WHEREAS, the office of behavioral health provides statewide authority and

11 accountability for all behavioral healthcare, including mental health treatment services, for

12 Louisiana citizens; and

13 WHEREAS, the mission of the office of behavioral health is to work collaboratively

14 with partners to develop and implement a comprehensive integrated system of behavioral

15 health and healthcare, social supports, and prevention services that promote recovery and

16 resilience for all citizens of Louisiana; and

17 WHEREAS, the mission of LDH is to protect and promote health and to ensure

18 access to medical, preventive, and rehabilitative services for all citizens of the state of

19 Louisiana; and

1 WHEREAS, LDH works to provide quality services, protect and promote health,  
2 develop and stimulate services by others, and utilize available resources in the most effective  
3 manner in order to fulfill its mission; and

4 WHEREAS, state law (R.S. 28:52) provides that any person who has a mental illness  
5 or is suffering from a substance-related or addictive disorder may apply for voluntary  
6 admission to a treatment facility and that admitting physicians are encouraged to admit  
7 persons who have a mental illness or persons suffering from a substance-related or addictive  
8 disorder to treatment facilities on voluntary admission status whenever medically feasible;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, there is a high prevalence of comorbidity between mental illness and  
11 substance use disorders as stress acts as a neurological link between both diseases; and

12 WHEREAS, the risk factors that contribute to mental illness and substance use  
13 disorders include genetic vulnerabilities, epigenetic influences, environmental influences,  
14 childhood trauma, and other biological and socioeconomic components; and

15 WHEREAS, the office of behavioral health facilitates the provision of crisis care  
16 through ten local governing entities, the human service districts, and authorities of this state  
17 that are currently making efforts to treat and manage community behavioral health issues;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, understanding how individuals with mental illness and substance use  
20 disorders flow through different systems of crisis care would help the state behavioral health  
21 agency to achieve better service coordination and sustainability in systems of care.

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
23 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby direct the office of behavioral health of the Louisiana  
24 Department of Health to collect data to show the total cost associated with individuals with  
25 chronic untreated and under-treated serious mental illnesses and substance use disorders  
26 moving through various systems of crisis care and to report such data to certain legislative  
27 committees.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of behavioral health of the LDH shall  
29 submit the data collected in accordance with this Resolution in the form of a report to the  
30 House Committee on Appropriations and the House Committee on Health and Welfare no

1 later than sixty days prior to the convening of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature  
2 of Louisiana.

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

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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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HR 57 Original	2021 Regular Session	Duplessis
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Directs the office of behavioral health of the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to collect data relative to certain mental illness and substance use crisis care.

Requests LDH to report data findings in the form of a report to the House Committee on Appropriations and House Committee on Health and Welfare.