SLS 21RS-3675 ORIGINAL

2021 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 217

BY SENATOR FESI

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HEALTH CARE. Directs the Louisiana Department of Health and the LSU Health Services Center - New Orleans, health care services division, to report on the use and results of hydroxychloroquine on Medicaid patients for treating COVID-19.

A RESOLUTION

2 To authorize and direct the Louisiana Department of Health and the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - New Orleans, health care services division, to 3 jointly report on the use and results of hydroxychloroquine for treating Medicaid 4 5 recipients relative to COVID-19. WHEREAS, Senate Resolution No. 28 of the 2020 Second Extraordinary Session of 6 7 the Legislature requested the Louisiana Department of Health to report on the use and results 8 of hydroxychloroquine for treating Medicaid recipients relative to COVID-19 for a control 9 period of March 2020 through October 2020 and to submit a report to the Senate by 10 December 1, 2020; and 11 WHEREAS, in response to Senate Resolution No. 28, the Louisiana Department of Health advised of its inability to complete the required report due to funding and clinical 12 13 research needed; that it did not consider the resolution as a health care- and clinical- related 14 policy, but rather clinical and academic research, that the department did not have the capacity nor the in-house expertise to conduct a clinical study, and that the department was 15 concerned that some data points would be unavailable or difficult to obtain, as in the case 16 17 where medication was donated or it was used in outpatient treatment; and 18 WHEREAS, the mission of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center -

1	New Orleans, health care services division, is to work and team collaboratively with other
2	organizations to advance quality and efficiency in care delivery and positively impact health
3	and health care for Louisiana's citizens; and
4	WHEREAS, hydroxychloroquine, also known as hydroxychloroquine sulfate, was
5	approved for medical use in the United States in 1955; and
6	WHEREAS, hydroxychloroquine is used to treat rheumatoid arthritis and lupus, and
7	can be used to prevent malaria; and
8	WHEREAS, hydroxychloroquine has been proposed as a treatment for COVID-19
9	and has been the focus of several randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials across
10	the United States and parts of Canada; and
11	WHEREAS, according to the Louisiana Department of Health, as of October 19,
12	2020, there have been 2,594,376 COVID-19 tests administered; 175,982 confirmed
13	COVID-19 diagnoses; and 5,566 confirmed COVID-19 deaths in Louisiana; and
14	WHEREAS, more than 1.8 million Louisianians are enrolled in the state Medicaid
15	program; and
16	WHEREAS, Medicaid recipients' services covered and outcomes achieved are
17	reliable and readily available data sets that can be used to determine the use and results of
18	hydroxychloroquine.
19	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
20	does hereby authorize and direct the Louisiana Department of Health and the Louisiana State
21	University Health Sciences Center - New Orleans, health care services division, to report on
22	the use and results of hydroxychloroquine for treating Medicaid recipients relative to
23	COVID-19.
24	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall include the following
25	information for a control period of March 2020 through October 2020:
26	(1) The number of Medicaid recipients who were taking hydroxychloroquine for
27	rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, or to prevent malaria during the control period and tested
28	positive for COVID-19.
29	(a) Of those recipients who tested positive for COVID-19, how many were

hospitalized and what was the duration of the hospitalization.

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SLS 21RS-3675 **ORIGINAL** SR NO. 217

1	(b) Of those recipients who tested positive for COVID-19, how many deaths occurred
2	whether hospitalized or not.
3	(2) The number of Medicaid recipients who were not taking hydroxychloroquine for
4	rheumatoid arthritis or lupus, or to prevent malaria during the control period, tested positive
5	for COVID-19, and were treated with hydroxychloroquine as a COVID-19 post-exposure
6	prophylaxis.
7	(a) Of those recipients treated with hydroxychloroquine as a COVID-19
8	post-exposure prophylaxis, how many were hospitalized and what was the duration of the
9	hospitalization.
10	(b) Of those recipients treated with hydroxychloroquine as a COVID-19
11	post-exposure prophylaxis, how many deaths occurred, whether hospitalized or not.
12	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report to the Senate shall be provided no
13	later than December 1, 2021.
14	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
15	secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and to the chancellor of Louisiana State
16	University Health Sciences Center - New Orleans, health care services division.
	The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part

SR 217 Original

**DIGEST** 

of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

2021 Regular Session

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Directs the La. Department of Health and the LSU Health Sciences Center - New Orleans, health care services division, to report to the Senate no later than on December 1, 2021, on the use and results of hydroxychloroquine for treating Medicaid recipients relative to COVID-19 between March 2020 through October 2020.