

SENATE FLOOR AMENDMENTS

2021 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senator Barrow to Original Senate Resolution No. 217 by Senator Fesi

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, line 5, after "COVID-19" insert:

3 "and to urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, the Department of Children
4 and Family Services, and the office of the governor to study the cost, mechanisms of
5 funding, and potential impact of voluntary, universally available, evidence-based home
6 visitations for every Louisiana family who gives birth to or adopts a baby, and report the
7 findings to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare by March 1, 2022."

8 AMENDMENT NO. 2

9 On page 3, between lines 11 and 12, insert:

10 "WHEREAS, evidence-based home visiting programs for babies have
11 demonstrated success in improving outcomes for children and families; and
12 WHEREAS, Louisiana ranks among the highest states for maternal mortality and
13 lacks equity in access to the services that address the needs of postpartum mothers; and
14 WHEREAS, very young children represent the highest percentage of those children
15 taken into the child welfare system; and
16 WHEREAS, parents of children across the economic spectrum can benefit from
17 targeted services and supports in their baby's earliest days; and
18 WHEREAS, models of home visiting programs are already demonstrating success
19 throughout the state for families with children of all ages; and
20 WHEREAS, economic experts estimate that investments and interventions in early
21 childhood can reap a significant return on investment for the state; and
22 WHEREAS, voluntary universal home visiting services can help families identify
23 potential health issues that may lead to developmental delays, allowing for less costly
24 interventions; and
25 WHEREAS, the state could dramatically change the trajectory for many children by
26 offering voluntary universal home visiting supports to families when children are the most
27 vulnerable and their brains are rapidly developing; and
28 WHEREAS, data indicates that voluntary universal home visiting programs can help
29 states make significant gains in the health and wellbeing outcomes of all children, resulting
30 in additional gains in early learning and future school readiness.
31 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
32 does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, the Department of
33 Children and Family Services, and the office of the governor to study cost, implementation,
34 and potential impact of a voluntary, universally available, evidence-based home visiting
35 program for all Louisiana families.
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that one staff member from the Louisiana
37 Department of Health and one staff member from the Department of Children and Family
38 Services shall serve as co-chairs of the group conducting the study on voluntary universal
39 home visitations requested by this Resolution.
40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the agencies conducting the study on voluntary
41 universal home visitations shall also consult with the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children,
42 the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families, health insurance issuers and health care
43 providers doing business in Louisiana, and any other interested community members and
44 stakeholders.
45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall report
46 the findings of the study on voluntary universal home visitations to the Senate Committee
47 on Health and Welfare by March 1, 2022."

48 AMENDMENT NO. 3

- 1 On page 3, line 12, after "Senate" insert "on the use and results of hydroxychloroquine"
- 2 AMENDMENT NO. 4
- 3 On page 3, line 15, after "Health" insert ", the secretary of the Department of Children and
- 4 Family Services, the office of the governor,"