2022 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 88

BY REPRESENTATIVE ECHOLS

MEDICAID: Urges and requests the La. Department of Health to utilize increased collections from pharmacy rebates to increase rates for primary care providers in the Medicaid program

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To request the Louisiana Department of Health to utilize increased collections from
3	pharmacy rebates to reimburse pharmacists to acquire prescription drugs and then
4	to increase rates for primary care providers in the Medicaid program.
5	WHEREAS, the term "primary care" refers to routine healthcare services delivered
6	by clinicians who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal healthcare
7	needs, developing a sustained partnership with patients, and practicing in the context of
8	family and community; this care includes screening, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment
9	for the purpose of promoting a person's health and detecting and managing a person's disease
10	or injury; and
11	WHEREAS, primary care is a vital component of any healthcare system and is
12	essential for improving and maintaining the health of any population; and
13	WHEREAS, enhancing healthcare provider reimbursement rates for primary care in
14	the Louisiana Medicaid program is a direct incentive for increasing the availability of this
15	much-needed care in our state; and
16	WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 1 of the 2020 Second Extraordinary Session of
17	the Legislature requested a study of the costs and benefits of setting Medicaid
18	reimbursement rates for primary care services equivalent to Medicare rates for those
19	services; and

1	WHEREAS, the resulting study found that Louisiana's Medicaid program pays on
2	average sixty-seven percent of the rates provided by Medicare; and
3	WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Executive Budget recommendation includes
4	nine hundred fifty-one million twenty-five thousand nine hundred ninety-four dollars in
5	pharmacy rebates that offset the expenditure need of the Medicaid program; and
6	WHEREAS, the Medicaid Estimating Conference received testimony at its meeting
7	on April 12, 2022, that projected pharmacy rebate amounts could exceed the amounts
8	recommended in the Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.
9	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
10	request the Louisiana Department of Health to utilize these additional pharmacy rebates to
11	reimburse pharmacists to acquire prescription drugs and then to increase base reimbursement
12	rates provided to primary care and pediatric office visit Evaluation and Management codes
13	up to one hundred percent of the Medicare reimbursement rates provided for primary care
14	services in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget.
15	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
16	secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and the director of the Louisiana Medicaid
17	

17 program.

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)]

HCR 88 Engrossed	2022 Regular Session	Echols
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Requests the La. Dept. of Health to utilize increased pharmacy rebate collections within the Medicaid program in Fiscal Year 2022-2023 to reimburse pharmacists to acquire prescription drugs and then to increase primary care and pediatric office visit reimbursement rates to levels provided by Medicare.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Health and Welfare</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:

- 1. Add reimbursement language for pharmacists to acquire prescription drugs.
- 2. Make technical corrections.