

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 116

BY REPRESENTATIVES EDMONSTON, AMEDEE, BUTLER, ECHOLS, FIRMENT, FRIEMAN, GADBERRY, HODGES, HORTON, MCCORMICK, CHARLES OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, SEABAUGH, AND TARVER

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: Expresses the sense of the La. House of Representatives with respect to any potential agreement with the World Health Organization relating to global pandemic response for the U.S.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sense of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana with
3 respect to any potential agreement with the World Health Organization relating to
4 global pandemic response for the United States.

5 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization, referred to hereafter in this Resolution
6 as the "WHO", was founded in 1948 and is a specialized agency of the United Nations with
7 a broad mandate to act as a coordinating authority on international health issues; and

8 WHEREAS, the WHO is currently helping to coordinate a worldwide response to
9 COVID-19, a respiratory disease that the WHO declared to be Public Health Emergency of
10 International Concern on January 30, 2020, and a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

11 WHEREAS, the United States has recently been the largest funding source for the
12 WHO, providing from four hundred million to five hundred million dollars to the
13 organization each year along with the Gates Foundation, the United Kingdom, Germany, and
14 the European Commission; and

15 WHEREAS, the Biden administration has become actively involved in efforts to
16 reform WHO procedures for preparing for and responding to future pandemics; and

17 WHEREAS, the United States has proposed amendments to the International Health
18 Regulations (IHR) which will be voted on by the World Health Assembly scheduled for May
19 22 through 28, 2022; and

1 WHEREAS, the IHR are legally binding and supersede the United States
2 Constitution and will cede additional sovereignty, control, and legal authority over to the
3 WHO; and

4 WHEREAS these amendments will not require a two-thirds vote of the United States
5 Senate; rather, they will require a simple majority of the World Health Assembly's one
6 hundred ninety four member countries; and

7 WHEREAS these amendments would come into force as international law in
8 November of 2022, just six months after their approval; and

9 WHEREAS these amendments give the director general of the WHO the power to
10 unilaterally declare a Public Health Emergency of International Concern even over the
11 objection of a country dealing with an outbreak of disease.

12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
13 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sense that any agreement with the World
14 Health Organization relating to global pandemic response for the United States should
15 require approval by the Legislature of Louisiana or by a majority vote of the citizens of this
16 state.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such agreement should prohibit any threat
18 to the constitutional sovereignty of this state and the inalienable rights of this state's citizens.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such agreement should prohibit interference
20 with an individual's right to make all medical and health-related decisions for themselves, their
21 minor child, or any individual for whom they hold legal medical power of attorney.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such agreement should prohibit
23 bio-surveillance and the collection of medical or health-related data without full disclosure
24 and consent of the individual.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such agreement should prohibit the
26 enforcement of treatment protocols, recommendations, and guidelines, allowing healthcare
27 providers the freedom to treat their patients without reprisal.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
29 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the

- 1 United States of America, to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, and
 - 2 to each member of the Louisiana Senate.
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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)]

HR 116 Original

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Edmonston

Expresses the sense of the La. House of Representatives with respect to any potential agreement with the World Health Organization relating to global pandemic response for the United States.