

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 155

BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER

HEALTH CARE: Forms a study group to evaluate options and make recommendations for reforming healthcare workforce training and development in this state

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To create and provide for a study group to evaluate options and make recommendations for
3 reforming healthcare workforce training and development in this state and to report
4 its findings concerning these matters to the House of Representatives of the
5 Legislature of Louisiana.

6 WHEREAS, Louisiana's healthcare professionals are indispensable to our families
7 and communities; and

8 WHEREAS, because healthcare workforce needs are ever-changing, our state must
9 implement reforms to create a dynamic system for identifying and fulfilling these needs; and

10 WHEREAS, fostering the training of sufficient numbers of healthcare professionals
11 such as physician assistants and nurse practitioners, as well as allied health professionals
12 who work in primary care settings, will assist in making primary care services more
13 accessible to the people of our state; and

14 WHEREAS, in conjunction with existing programs for the training of family
15 physicians, renewing efforts to increase the ranks of highly trained physician assistants,
16 nurses, and allied health professionals practicing in Louisiana will lead to a much-improved
17 healthcare delivery system for our state; and

18 WHEREAS, community hospitals, rural hospitals, and other health systems offering
19 healthcare workforce training in affiliation or association with accredited institutions of
20 higher education will help in meeting the need for health care in our state's many health
21 professional shortage areas and medically underserved communities; and

1 WHEREAS, because Louisiana has a pronounced shortage of nurses, and this
2 shortage has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, stimulating a greater supply of
3 nurses and improving career ladders for these essential healthcare workers are vital public
4 health priorities of this state; and

5 WHEREAS, this state would benefit from a thorough study which identifies the
6 parties who have responsibility for oversight of educational programs that produce
7 healthcare professionals and yields recommendations concerning the extent to which
8 healthcare professional licensing boards should have influence on the structure and operation
9 of such programs; and

10 WHEREAS, the ideal study would look broadly across the careers that require
11 undergraduate credentialing, both in Louisiana and across other states, to establish what level
12 of consistency of approach is appropriate for the teaching and training of nurses and other
13 essential healthcare professionals; and

14 WHEREAS, it is necessary to determine where oversight lies currently, and where
15 it should properly lie, in the formation and delivery of healthcare professional education
16 programs.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
18 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create a study group to evaluate options and make
19 recommendations for reforming healthcare workforce training and development in this state.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall be composed of the
21 following members:

- 22 (1) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.
- 23 (2) One member appointed by the chairman of the Board of Supervisors of
24 Community and Technical Colleges.
- 25 (3) One member appointed by the chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana
26 State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.
- 27 (4) One member appointed by the chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Southern
28 University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.
- 29 (5) One member appointed by the chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the
30 University of Louisiana System.

1 (6) One member appointed by the chairman of the board of directors of the
2 Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

3 (7) One member appointed by the president of the Louisiana Hospital Association.

4 (8) One member appointed by the president of the Louisiana State Nurses
5 Association.

6 (9) One member appointed by the executive director of the Louisiana State Medical
7 Society.

8 (10) One member appointed by the president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse
9 Practitioners.

10 (11) One member appointed by the executive director of the Louisiana Nursing
11 Home Association.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the member appointed by the chairman of the
13 Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges shall serve as chairman of the
14 study group.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters which the study group shall examine
16 are to include, without limitation, all of the following:

17 (1) Healthcare workforce training and development priorities for Louisiana.

18 (2) Optimal uses of funds appropriated by the legislature for healthcare education
19 and training.

20 (3) Standards and guidelines for health professions education and training programs
21 funded through legislative appropriations.

22 (4) Outcomes data from health professions education and training programs.

23 (5) Systems for prioritizing health professions education and training needs of
24 Louisiana communities.

25 (6) Options for developing a statewide health professions education and training
26 funding strategy.

27 (7) Sources of funding to stimulate expansion of health professions education and
28 training.

29 (8) Sources of technical assistance and support for establishing new health
30 professions education and training programs in Louisiana.

1 (9) Means for establishing and enhancing health professions career ladders and
2 pathways.

3 (10) Means for induction of new workers into Louisiana's healthcare workforce and
4 for retention of the state's existing healthcare workforce.

5 (11) Inefficiencies in current healthcare professional licensure and credentialing
6 systems and impediments to increasing the number of healthcare workers produced.

7 (12) The extent to which healthcare professional licensing boards should have
8 influence on the structure and operation of educational programs that produce healthcare
9 professionals.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall submit its findings
11 regarding the matters enumerated in this Resolution, as well as any other findings concerning
12 healthcare workforce training and development as deemed appropriate by the chairman of
13 the study group, in the form of a report to the elected members of the House of
14 Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana and the David R. Poynter Legislative
15 Research Library no later than thirty days prior to the convening of the 2023 Regular
16 Session.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislative authority for the study group shall
18 terminate on July 1, 2023.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
20 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the chairman of the Board of Supervisors
21 of Community and Technical Colleges, the chairman of the Board of Supervisors of
22 Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the chairman of the
23 Board of Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the
24 chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, the chairman
25 of the board of directors of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and
26 Universities, the president of the Louisiana Hospital Association, the president of the
27 Louisiana State Nurses Association, the executive director of the Louisiana State Medical
28 Society, the president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners, and the executive
29 director of the Louisiana Nursing Home Association.

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 155 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Turner

Creates and provides for a study group to evaluate options and make recommendations for reforming healthcare workforce training and development in this state. Requires the study group to report its findings to the House of Representatives no later than 30 days prior to the convening of the 2023 R.S.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Add to the study group the following members:
 - a. One member appointed by the president of the La. Association of Nurse Practitioners.
 - b. One member appointed by the executive director of the La. Nursing Home Association.
2. Make technical changes.