

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 587

BY REPRESENTATIVE MOORE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

HEALTH CARE/PROVIDERS: Provides relative to the Louisiana Community Health Worker Workforce Board

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 36:259(B)(19) and Chapter 61 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 37:3721 through 3723, relative to community health workers; to create the Louisiana Community Health Worker Workforce Board within the Louisiana Department of Health; to provide for the powers and duties of the board; to provide for the board membership; to authorize the board to develop training practices and certification of community health workers; to provide for rulemaking authority; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 36:259(B)(19) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§259. Transfer of agencies and functions to Louisiana Department of Health

* * *

B. The following agencies are placed within the Louisiana Department of Health and shall exercise and perform their powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities as otherwise provided by law:

* * *

(19) The Louisiana Community Health Worker Workforce Board (R.S. 37:3721 et seq.).

* * *

1 Section 2. Chapter 61 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
2 comprised of R.S. 37:3721 through 3723, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

3 §3721. Short Title

4 This Chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Louisiana Community
5 Health Worker Workforce Practice Act".

6 §3722. Community Health Worker Workforce Board

7 There is hereby created a Louisiana Community Health Worker Workforce
8 Board within the Louisiana Department of Health. It shall consist of twenty-three
9 members to include eleven community health workers. The board shall consist of
10 the following members:

11 (1) The director of the Community Health Worker Institute at Louisiana
12 State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans or his designee.

13 (2) The dean of the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical
14 Medicine or his designee.

15 (3) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee,
16 who shall have expertise in community partnerships and health equity.

17 (4) The assistant secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, office of
18 public health, or his designee.

19 (5) The executive director of Louisiana Medicaid or his designee, who shall
20 have expertise in clinical innovation.

21 (6) The executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care Association or his
22 designee.

23 (7) A representative of the PRO Louisiana Workforce Development Program
24 appointed by the governor.

25 (8) The executive director of Taking Aim at Cancer in Louisiana or his
26 designee.

27 (9) The director of the Louisiana Community Health Outreach Network or
28 his designee.

29 (10) A representative of the Louisiana Managed Medicaid Association.

1 (11) Eleven community health workers representing community based
2 organizations and the Louisiana Department of Health's geographical local governing
3 entity regions. These members shall be appointed by the governor.

4 (12) One member appointed by the President of the Senate.

5 (13) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

6 §3723. Board powers and duties

7 A. The board shall elect a chairman at its first meeting.

8 B. The board shall be responsible for the following:

9 (1) The development of a program to enhance employer readiness in hiring
10 community health workers.

11 (2) Development of core skills, roles, and competencies for community
12 health workers in Louisiana.

13 (3) Develop standards and requirements for community health worker
14 education and training programs.

15 (4) Develop a certification program for community health workers.

16 (5) Develop minimum standards for community health worker educators.

17 (6) To review community health worker training programs.

18 (7) Recommend sustainable methods of financing community health worker
19 services.

20 (8) Track community health worker employment in Louisiana.

21 C. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act
22 to implement the provisions of this Chapter.

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)]

HB 587 Original

2023 Regular Session

Moore

Abstract: Creates the Louisiana Community Health Worker Workforce Board.

Proposed law creates the Louisiana Community Health Worker Workforce Board.

Proposed law provides for the following duties of the board:

- (1) The development of a program to enhance employer readiness in hiring community health workers.
- (2) Development of core skills, roles, and competencies for community health workers in Louisiana.
- (3) Develop standards and requirements for community health worker education and training programs.
- (4) Develop a certification program for community health workers.
- (5) Develop minimum standards for community health worker educators.
- (6) To review community health worker training programs.
- (7) Recommend sustainable methods of financing community health worker services.
- (8) Track community health worker employment in Louisiana.

Proposed law gives the board rulemaking authority.

(Adds R.S. 36:259(B)(19) and R.S. 37:3721-3723)