

1 WHEREAS, while gene therapy is believed to cure sickle cell disease and the
2 symptoms resulting therefrom, such therapy is predicted to be costly; and

3 WHEREAS, a financing mechanism to provide this care is needed as the projected
4 cost of the treatment is over one million dollars per patient; and

5 WHEREAS, the state has used innovative financing models to provide critical access
6 for other high cost medications, such as those needed for patients with hepatitis C; and

7 WHEREAS, the state's financing models for such services could serve as a model for
8 financing similar arrangements for patients with sickle cell anemia; and

9 WHEREAS, implementation of this potentially life-saving treatment could lead to
10 a substantially improved quality of life for thousands of Louisiana residents.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
12 urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to study the feasibility of funding gene
13 therapy for all sickle cell patients via Medicaid.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall
15 develop findings and recommendations concerning this topic and submit its findings in the
16 form of a written report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare, Senate Committee
17 on Health and Welfare, and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library no later than
18 thirty days prior to the convening of the 2024 Regular Session.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
20 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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 92 Engrossed

2023 Regular Session

Hughes

Requests the La. Dept. of Health to study the feasibility of funding gene therapy for all sickle cell treatment via Medicaid.