SLS 23RS-1659 **ORIGINAL**

2023 Regular Session

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 111

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

MEDICAID. Requests the Louisiana Department of Health to authorize coverage through the Medicaid program for portable oxygen concentrators, when medically necessary.

A RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to authorize coverage through the
3	Louisiana Medicaid program for portable oxygen concentrators, when medically
4	necessary.
5	WHEREAS, oxygen is an essential medicine used to care for patients at all levels of
6	the healthcare system, including in surgery, trauma, heart failure, asthma, pneumonia, and
7	maternal and child care; and
8	WHEREAS, oxygen concentrators are devices that draw room air through a series
9	of filters that remove dust, bacteria, and other particulates; and
10	WHEREAS, an oxygen concentrator delivers supplemental oxygen to individuals
11	who experience drops in blood oxygen levels due to medical conditions such as chronic
12	obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), COVID-19, and lung cancer; and
13	WHEREAS, there are two common types of oxygen concentrators: stationary and
14	portable; and
15	WHEREAS, a portable oxygen concentrator draws oxygen from the air around it,
16	eliminating the need for refillable tanks and making it smaller and lighter than stationary
17	oxygen concentrators or portable oxygen tanks; and
18	WHEREAS, most portable oxygen concentrators are shorter than knee height and are

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designed to be carried or carted around; and

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WHEREAS, because portable oxygen concentrators are smaller and lighter, they allow an individual to move around freely and receive supplemental oxygen while performing normal daytime activities or at night to help maintain blood oxygen levels while sleeping; and

WHEREAS, there may be a significant increase in not only quality of care, but also quality of life for patients who use portable oxygen concentrators, especially in rural healthcare settings and for pediatric patients; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's Medicaid program currently covers portable oxygen tanks, but does not allow the option of a portable oxygen concentrator; and

WHEREAS, a portable oxygen concentrator may help keep Louisiana residents enrolled in Medicaid both active and in compliance with prescribed oxygen therapy for a healthier, happier, and longer life.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to authorize coverage through the Louisiana Medicaid program for portable oxygen concentrators, when medically necessary.

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

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Brandi Cannon.

DIGEST 2023 Regular Session

Boudreaux

Requests the La. Dept. of Health to authorize coverage through the La. Medicaid program for portable oxygen concentrators, when medically necessary.