

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 209

BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to form a group to study the uncompensated work of support coordination agencies in this state.

WHEREAS, support coordination agencies (SCAs) are organizations that provide care planning and case management to coordinate the services for home- and community-based service participants; and

WHEREAS, SCAs serve individuals who receive services through the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) and the Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS); and

WHEREAS, the individuals who receive such services are also Medicaid eligible; and

WHEREAS, SCAs play a critical role in assisting individuals to access home- and community-based services between the time of linkage of a participant to an SCA via Statistical Resources Inc (SRI) and the time of certification of eligibility to begin services; and

WHEREAS, such agencies complete the person-centered planning process, which involves coordination with the family and natural supports for the waiver participant; and

WHEREAS, additionally, SCAs must provide trained staff from the linkage to assist with the medical and financial certification process, housing, transition activities, and collaboration with all medical and behavioral health team members to identify the services needed within the respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the process to certify a participant for services is time, labor, and resource-intensive, and SCAs are not currently fully reimbursed for such work; and

WHEREAS, payment to an SCA begins at the time of certification rather than the time of linkage; and

WHEREAS, there is a significant loss in revenues associated with the uncompensated work of SCAs, which also requires agencies to carry larger than optimal case loads; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the legislature to ensure the efficiency of such programs and to resolve such costly and labor-intensive issues.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to form a group to study the uncompensated work of support coordination agencies in this state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the group shall study the methods used by other states as it relates to linkage and the certification process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall consider all of the following:

- (1) The reimbursement of SCAs for their work beginning at the point of linkage from a local governing authority.
- (2) The reassignment of all pre-certification work to local governing authorities.
- (3) The possibility of not linking participants to an SCA until they are deemed Medicaid eligible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this working group shall include the following individuals:

- (1) A representative from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities.
- (2) A representative from the Office of Aging and Adult Services.
- (3) A representative from the Louisiana Medicaid Program.
- (4) A representative from a local governing entity who has experience working with support coordination agencies.
- (5) The executive director of the Community Provider Association or his designee.
- (6) A designated worker representative who is a currently employed by a support coordination agency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before February 1, 2024, the study group shall submit to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library a written report of its findings and recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the designated representative from a local governing entity who has experience working with support coordination agencies, the executive director of the Community Provider Association, and the designated worker representative who is a currently employed by a support coordination agency.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES