

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 200

BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to form a work group to study alternative instruments that could be used to inform reimbursement rates for Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled residents.

WHEREAS, Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled are facilities that are licensed to provide residential services to four or more individuals with developmental disabilities who require twenty-four-hour care; and

WHEREAS, Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled (ICF/DD) are licensed by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Health Standards Section (HSS); and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent Medicaid Annual Report for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year, there are four thousand three hundred thirty-four individuals residing in ICF/DDs in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, each ICF/DD resident is assessed with the Inventory for Client and Agency Planning (ICAP) assessment instrument upon admission and while residing in the ICF/DD in accordance with LDH regulations; and

WHEREAS, the ICAP is a standardized instrument for assessing adaptive and maladaptive behavior and includes an overall service score; and

WHEREAS, this ICAP service score combines adaptive and maladaptive behavior scores to indicate the overall level of care, supervision, or training required to support the resident; and

WHEREAS, this score informs the daily reimbursement rate that Medicaid pays to the ICF/DD to provide care for the individual; and

WHEREAS, ICF/DD providers across the state have expressed concern that the ICAP tool, which has been in use in Louisiana since 2005, is outdated and does not accurately capture the needs of the current population of ICF/DD residents; and

WHEREAS, the ICAP only assesses adaptive and maladaptive behaviors when determining an individual's score; and

WHEREAS, additional individual characteristics such as medical issues, diseases, physical disabilities, equipment needs, and mobility issues are not factored into the score and thus not factored into the individual's per diem reimbursement rate and these kinds of details are key in determining an individual's true level of need and should be considered in the rate methodology; and

WHEREAS, the limitations of the ICAP assessment instrument are becoming a growing issue as the ICF/DD population ages and the nonbehavioral needs have become a larger priority for many of these individuals; and

WHEREAS, ICF/DD providers have reported referral denials for individuals with more complex medical issues, physical disabilities, equipment needs, and mobility issues because such needs are not covered in the per diem determined by the ICAP; and

WHEREAS, ICF/DD providers have urged LDH to study alternative assessment tools that might better capture the needs of this population and inform a more appropriate rate methodology for a number of years and it is the duty of the Louisiana Legislature to ensure that the study is conducted.

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 work group to study alternative instruments that could be used to inform reimbursement rates based on the level of need of individual ICF/DD residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the group shall consider the possibility of using a standard assessment tool for all programs that serve individuals with disabilities, including home and community-based services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals shall participate in the study group:

- (1) A representative from the Louisiana Medicaid program.
- (2) A representative from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities.

(3) The executive director of the Community Provider Association or his designee.

(4) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before February 1, 2024, the 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 executive director of the Community Provider Association, and the designated representative from the Louisiana Medicaid program.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES