

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 201

BY REPRESENTATIVES FISHER, HUGHES, LARVADAIN, MCMAHEN, DUSTIN
MILLER, MOORE, SCHLEGEL, SELDERS, AND STAGNI

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare to create a subcommittee to study the effectiveness of sickle cell healthcare treatment practices in this state.

WHEREAS, according to the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), there is an estimated eighty infants born with sickle cell disease in Louisiana each year; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid program in Louisiana provides healthcare coverage to approximately three thousand patients with sickle cell disease in the state each year; and

WHEREAS, health outcomes for individuals with sickle cell disease are far worse compared to those individuals living without the disease; and

WHEREAS, patients with sickle cell disease experience shorter life expectancies, a higher rate of stroke, and longer wait times to see physicians and receive medications; and

WHEREAS, as it relates to hospitalization statistics, patients with sickle cell disease commonly return to the hospital within a thirty-day time period from being discharged; and

WHEREAS, according to LDH, the goal of the business plan for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year is to build the foundations for the healthcare systems to monitor the health of patients with sickle cell disease in this state and to allow such patients to reach their fullest health potential; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to foster a more efficient system to care for the patients with sickle cell disease in this state, the Legislature of Louisiana enacted Act No. 647 of the 2022 Regular Session; and

WHEREAS, Act No. 647 of the 2022 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature charged the Louisiana Department of Health to develop the Louisiana Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) Registry, known as the Skylar-Cooper Database; and

WHEREAS, the steering committee for the registry conducted an assessment and provided recommendations in furtherance of developing the registry; and

WHEREAS, while such efforts from the Legislature of Louisiana have contributed to the advancement of sickle cell healthcare programs, it is the duty of the legislators in this state to ensure the effectiveness of such efforts.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare to form a subcommittee to study the effectiveness of sickle cell healthcare treatment practices in this state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee shall serve as chairman of the subcommittee at its initial meeting to be held before September 15, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before February 1, 2024, the subcommittee established by this Resolution 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.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES