HLS 24RS-2431 ENGROSSED

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 113

BY REPRESENTATIVE HILFERTY

HEALTH/WOMEN'S: Creates the Postpartum Newborn Nurse Home Visiting Task Force

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To create a task force to study the implementation and impact of the Family Connects model
3	of postpartum newborn nurse home visiting in Louisiana and other states, to develop
4	policy and funding recommendations to implement the Family Connects model in
5	this state, to provide for the composition and duties of the task force, and to report
6	findings to the Louisiana Legislature.
7	WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature recognizes that evidence-based newborn nurse
8	home visiting programs for babies have demonstrated success in improving outcomes for
9	children and families; and
10	WHEREAS, a 2023 report by the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children found that
11	current state-sponsored home visiting programs reached only approximately six percent of
12	all births in the state in 2022; and
13	WHEREAS, Louisiana ranks among the highest states for maternal and infant
14	mortality and lacks access to the services that address the needs of postpartum mothers and
15	their infants; and
16	WHEREAS, very young children represent the highest percentage of those children
17	taken into the child welfare system; and
18	WHEREAS, parents of children across the economic spectrum can benefit from
19	targeted services in their baby's earliest days; and
20	WHEREAS, the Family Connects model of postpartum newborn nurse home visiting
21	is being provided in local communities and demonstrating success in Louisiana; and

1	WHEREAS, other states have recognized the benefits of the Family Connects model
2	of postpartum newborn nurse home visiting and designed public and private insurance
3	benefits as a sustainable source of funding for postpartum newborn nurse home visiting
4	programs; and
5	WHEREAS, postpartum nurse newborn home visiting services can help families
6	identify potential health issues that may lead to developmental delays allowing for less
7	costly interventions; and
8	WHEREAS, the state could dramatically change the trajectory for many children by
9	increasing access to postpartum nurse newborn home visiting services to families when
10	children are the most vulnerable and their brains are rapidly developing; and
11	WHEREAS, the Family Connects model of postpartum newborn nurse home visiting
12	has been found to improve health outcomes and reduce costs associated with emergency and
13	inpatient hospital utilization.
14	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
15	create the Postpartum Newborn Nurse Home Visiting Task Force.
16	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of the
17	following members:
18	(1) The director of the Louisiana Medicaid program or his designee.
19	(2) The director of the bureau of family health within the Louisiana Department of
20	Health or his designee.
21	(3) The medical director of the Louisiana Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review
22	within the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.
23	(4) The deputy commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Insurance, office of
24	health, life, and annuity or his designee.
25	(5) The executive director of the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children or his
26	designee.
27	(6) The executive director to the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families
28	or his designee.
29	(7) The executive director of the Louisiana Managed Medicaid Association or his
30	designee.

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(8) The executive director of the Louisiana Hospital Association or his designee.

(9) The executive director of the Louisiana State Nurses Association or his designee.

(10) The director of the Family Connects New Orleans or his designee.

- 4 (11) The chief nursing officer of Woman's Hospital of Baton Rouge or his designee.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the duties of the task force shall include but not be limited to all of the following:
- (1) Reviewing the current landscape of Family Connects postpartum newborn nurse
   home visiting programs being developed or delivered in this state.

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- (2) Reviewing the current landscape of Medicaid coverage for Family Connects postpartum newborn nurse home visiting programs in other states.
- 11 (3) Reviewing the current landscape of private insurance coverage for Family 12 Connects postpartum newborn nurse home visiting programs in other states.
  - (4) Evaluating the impact of existing Family Connects postpartum home visiting programs on health outcomes for families served including mothers and infants.
  - (5) Evaluating the estimated per family cost of Family Connects postpartum newborn nurse home visiting services in this state.
    - (6) Defining the scope of services provided by Family Connects postpartum newborn nurse home visiting programs encompassing both billable and non-billable activities.
  - (7) Identifying the most appropriate Medicaid State Plan authority to establish a covered benefit for evidence-based postpartum newborn nurse home visiting services.
  - (8) Recommending suitable reimbursement rates and developing a reimbursement structure for postpartum newborn nurse home visiting.
- 24 (9) Identifying or creating provider billing codes and recommending provider 25 documentation requirements for Medicaid and private insurance plans.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be empowered to request and collect relevant data and information necessary to fulfill its purposes from state agencies, Medicaid managed care organizations, and community-based organizations.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may, to the extent feasible, request such information and data at no cost.

1	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall incorporate the findings from
2	the study of other states' insurance coverage of evidence-based postpartum newborn nurse
3	home visiting programs in its comprehensive report of findings and policy recommendations.
4	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall
5	provide staff support to the task force to assist with identifying appointees, scheduling task
6	force meetings, recording meeting minutes, conducting policy research, and developing the
7	draft and final report.
8	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall elect a chair
9	at the first meeting of the task force.
10	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the first meeting of the task force meeting shall
11	be held by August 31, 2024, and shall meet as frequently as it deems necessary for the timely
12	performance of its duties.
13	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a draft report with preliminary recommendations
14	shall be generated and reviewed at a meeting of the task force by January 31, 2025, and a
15	final report with recommendations shall be generated and approved by the task force by
16	February 28, 2025.
17	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force meetings may be conducted in
18	person, by telephone, or virtually using a secure web-based platform as authorized by law.
19	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall transmit a final report of the
20	task force's findings and policy recommendations to the legislature.
21	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
22	director of the Louisiana Medicaid program, the director of the bureau of family health
23	within the Louisiana Department of Health, the medical director of the Louisiana Pregnancy-
24	Associated Mortality Review within the Louisiana Department of Health, the deputy
25	commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Insurance, office of health, life, and annuity,
26	the executive director of the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children, the executive director
27	to the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families, the executive director of the
28	Louisiana Managed Medicaid Association, the executive director of the Louisiana Hospital
29	Association, the executive director of the Louisiana State Nurses Association, the director

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1 of the Family Connects New Orleans, the chief nursing officer of Woman's Hospital of

2 Baton Rouge.

## **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)]

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Hilferty

Creates the 11-member Postpartum Newborn Nurse Home Visiting Task Force to study the benefits and feasibility of providing at home nursing services to recently born babies. Establishes duties and responsibilities of the task force and requires the task force to report its findings to the legislature.