

1 establishing a framework for the administration of funds, barriers to local governments
2 spending the funds still exist; and

3 WHEREAS, a May 2025 report from the Louisiana Legislative Auditor showed that
4 parishes and sheriff's offices indicated that barriers to spending settlement funds include a
5 lack of knowledge of approved purposes, understanding of community needs, staffing,
6 expertise in substance use or opioid use disorders, and identification of programs and
7 services in the area that are eligible for settlement funds; and

8 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health, through the office of behavioral
9 health and the human service districts and authorities, has resources available to assist local
10 governments in identifying appropriate uses of the funds; and

11 WHEREAS, the legislature could also assist in developing programs to help meet
12 local needs; and

13 WHEREAS, in order to better help local governments and sheriff's offices identify
14 how to connect residents with treatment and help they need, the legislature needs more
15 information on current spending of the funds.

16 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
17 request the legislative auditor to prepare a written report on opioid settlement fund
18 expenditures, in coordination with the Louisiana Opioid Abatement Administration
19 Corporation and the Opioid Abatement Task Force, and present the report to the Senate and
20 House health and welfare committees no later than December 31, 2026.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature requests that the report includes
22 the following information:

- 23 (1) The total amount of opioid settlement funds received to date.
- 24 (2) The total amount of funds distributed to each parish and sheriffs' office.
- 25 (3) An itemized account of expenditures by each parish and sheriff's office.
- 26 (4) The purpose and classification of expenditures.
- 27 (5) The legal basis used to classify spending as "treatment" or "abatement".
- 28 (6) The outcome or performance metrics tied to each expenditure.
- 29 (7) The reporting compliance status of each recipient.
- 30 (8) Unspent balances and anticipated future allocations.

