

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY SENATOR OWEN

HEALTH SERVICES. Requests the Louisiana Department of Health to study the feasibility of providing suboxone to first responders.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To request the Louisiana Department of Health to study the feasibility of providing
3 suboxone to first responders in Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, every year over 2,000 people in Louisiana die from a drug overdose,
5 accounting for over 2% of nationwide overdose deaths; and

6 WHEREAS, death from drug overdose may be preventable with attentive care from
7 first responders if they have life-saving medication available to them; and

8 WHEREAS, in 2014, Louisiana enacted a law to allow first responders to carry and
9 administer naloxone to individuals experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose; and

10 WHEREAS, up to 47% of patients refuse transport to the hospital after a naloxone
11 reversal, leaving them at high risk for a fatal, repeat overdose; and

12 WHEREAS, suboxone is a prescription medication that contains buprenorphine and
13 naloxone and helps people with opioid use disorder manage opioid cravings and reduce
14 withdrawal symptoms; and

15 WHEREAS, patients who encountered a suboxone-equipped ambulance were over
16 five times more likely to engage in addiction treatment within thirty days; and

17 WHEREAS, several states, including New Jersey and Delaware, and municipalities
18 have authorized certain first responders to administer suboxone; and

1 WHEREAS, programs in these states aim to bridge the gap between emergency care
2 and addiction recovery.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
4 does hereby request that the Louisiana Department of Health study the feasibility of
5 providing suboxone to first responders in Louisiana, including information on efforts in
6 other states and municipalities, any potential logistical and legal challenges, and
7 recommended protocols.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall submit
9 its findings and recommendations to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and to
10 the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library, as required by R.S. 24:771, no later than
11 February 1, 2027.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
13 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

SR 63 Original

DIGEST
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