

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 40

BY SENATOR CHEEK

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Louisiana Ambulance
3 Alliance to work in collaboration through the Emergency Medical Services
4 Professional Working Group to meet certain goals and to report to the Senate and
5 House committees on health and welfare by February 1, 2012.

6 WHEREAS, it is of the utmost importance that the state of Louisiana foster and
7 maintain strong emergency services and emergency services professionals who are able to
8 work collaboratively in order to successfully address emergency response, emergency
9 preparedness, and emergency services; and

10 WHEREAS, in order to facilitate a strong and vibrant emergency medical services
11 system and professionals, it is imperative that there are clear and easily understandable
12 regulations governing the emergency medical services system and profession; and

13 WHEREAS, in enacting R.S. 40:1231 et seq., this legislature found that the
14 Department of Health and Hospitals, office of public health, bureau of emergency medical
15 services, constitutes an invaluable part of the healthcare delivery system of Louisiana; and

16 WHEREAS, it is important that nationally required changes to regulations governing
17 emergency medical services are incorporated into the Louisiana Revised Statutes before
18 January 1, 2014; and

19 WHEREAS, with emergency services delivery and emergency preparedness planning
20 challenges in the state only increasing, the emergency medical system must move away from
21 the traditional structures and develop integrated and collaborative service delivery methods
22 which seek to maximize, while still maintaining the highest degree of competency by which
23 emergency medical services are provided to the citizens of this state; and

24 WHEREAS, it is essential that the solutions to these challenges be developed through
25 a thoughtful and deliberative process.

26 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
27 urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Louisiana Ambulance

1 Alliance to work in collaboration through the Emergency Medical Services Professional
2 Working Group to meet certain goals and to report to the Senate and House committees on
3 health and welfare by February 1, 2012.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Emergency Medical Services Professional
5 Working Group is hereby created and shall be composed of the following members who
6 shall be appointed no later than July 15, 2011:

7 (1) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.

8 (2) The chief executive officer of the Louisiana Ambulance Alliance or his designee.

9 (3) The Department of Health and Hospitals Director of Emergency Preparedness or
10 his designee.

11 (4) The Louisiana State Fire Marshall or his designee.

12 (5) The executive director of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network (LERN)
13 or his designee.

14 (6) The executive director of the Louisiana Chapter of the American College of
15 Emergency Physicians or his designee.

16 (7) The chairperson of the Department of Health and Hospitals Emergency Medical
17 Services Certification Commission or his designee who is, at a minimum, a state-certified
18 emergency medical technician.

19 (8) The president of the Louisiana Association of Registered Emergency Medical
20 Technicians or his designee, who is, at a minimum, a state-certified emergency medical
21 technician.

22 (9) The President of the Louisiana State Firemen's Association or his designee.

23 (10) The President of the Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association or his designee.

24 In addition, the following professionals within the Louisiana Department of Health
25 and Hospitals may appoint one representative to the working group to act in an advisory
26 capacity only:

27 (1) The director of the bureau of emergency medical services, office of public health,
28 within the Department of Health and Hospitals.

29 (2) The chair of the Ambulance Standards Committee of the Emergency Medical
30 Services Task Force.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the initial meeting shall be held no later than
2 August 1, 2011, and the Emergency Medical Services Professional Working Group shall
3 provide for the manner and frequency of the group's meetings and for all other
4 administrative matters necessary in order to function as a working group.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following objectives and goals shall be met
6 by the Emergency Medical Services Professional Working Group:

7 (1) Develop language for legislation to address nationally required changes to
8 Louisiana law governing emergency medical services.

9 (2) Discuss and outline additional system recommendations which may improve
10 emergency medical services, avoid service duplication and redundancy, and align services
11 with currently existing departments within the Department of Health and Hospitals.

12 (3) Review, discuss and recommend the most appropriate location and statutory
13 structure for the licensure and certification of emergency medical personnel, specifically
14 addressing whether the licensing function should remain with the Department of Health and
15 Hospitals or be transferred to an independent regulatory board or other more appropriate
16 venue as identified by the Emergency Medical Services Professional Working Group.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Emergency Medical Services Professional
18 Working Group shall submit a written report of its conclusions and recommendations to the
19 Senate and House committees on health and welfare by February 1, 2012. The group shall
20 terminate no later than June 30, 2012.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to all
22 members of the Emergency Medical Services Professional Working Group.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____