

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 102

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILLMOTT

HEALTH: Requests DHH to collaborate with stakeholders in school-based vaccination programs to prepare for the 2013-2014 influenza season

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals, center for community and
3 preventive health, to work with school-located influenza vaccination stakeholders to
4 prepare for the 2013-2014 influenza season in order to immunize children against
5 influenza.

6 WHEREAS, every year in the United States, on average, more than two hundred
7 thousand people are hospitalized from influenza-related complications and the Centers for
8 Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that between three thousand and forty-nine
9 thousand people in the United States die from influenza-related causes; and

10 WHEREAS, it is estimated that between four hundred fifty thousand and nine
11 hundred thousand Louisiana residents become infected with influenza each year; and

12 WHEREAS, the total number of influenza-related hospitalizations in Louisiana range
13 from five hundred to one thousand six hundred per year, with the rate varying from fifteen
14 to thirty-five per one hundred thousand population per year; and

15 WHEREAS, influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by the influenza A
16 and B viruses; and

17 WHEREAS, the best way to help prevent seasonal influenza is by getting a
18 vaccination each year; and

19 WHEREAS, the CDC recommends annual seasonal influenza vaccination for all
20 eligible persons in the United States, including all individuals six months of age or older; and

1 WHEREAS, children and young adults five years to nineteen years of age are three
2 to four times more likely to be infected with influenza than adults; and

3 WHEREAS, school-aged children is the population group most responsible for the
4 transmission of influenza; and

5 WHEREAS, influenza vaccination programs located in schools are effective ways
6 to vaccinate eligible children and increase vaccination rates in children; and

7 WHEREAS, influenza vaccination programs located in schools may improve
8 organizational capacity to conduct sustained mass vaccination clinics for children as might
9 be required in response to a pandemic; and

10 WHEREAS, participation in vaccination programs by a school district or an
11 individual should be voluntary and the vaccine should be administered with the consent of
12 a student's parent or legal guardian.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
14 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Health and
15 Hospitals, center for community and preventive health, to work with school-located
16 influenza vaccination stakeholders to prepare for the 2013-2014 influenza season in order
17 to immunize children against influenza.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature
19 of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to
20 collaborate with the state insurance commissioner, private insurers, and vaccine stakeholders
21 to facilitate the accessibility of coverage for all reasonable and customary expenses,
22 including the cost of the vaccine and administration fee, incurred when the influenza vaccine
23 is administered outside of a physician's office in a school or other settings.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature
25 of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to help
26 support these programs through coordination with local health departments, school nurses,
27 mass vaccinations access companies, school health care programs, or other local entities.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature
29 of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to assist
30 mass vaccination companies in registering with the medical assistance program in order to

1 receive vaccine from the federal Vaccines for Children program for eligible children and
2 reimbursement from the medical assistance program for administration.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health and Hospitals shall
4 submit a written report on the results of the school-located vaccination programs which
5 addresses barriers to the expansion of the programs and proposes options for sustaining
6 existing programs to the House Committee on Health and Welfare on or before April 1,
7 2014.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
9 secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.

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)]

Willmott

HR No. 102

Urges and requests the Dept. of Health and Hospitals, center for community and preventive health, to work with school-located influenza vaccination stakeholders to prepare for the 2013-2014 influenza season in order to immunize children against influenza and to report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare on or before April 1, 2014.