Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 164

BY REPRESENTATIVE BARROW

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the most effective
3	means by which to ensure open access to HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C medications by
4	persons enrolled in the Medicaid managed care program known as "Bayou Health"
5	and to report its findings to the House Committee on Health and Welfare.
6	WHEREAS, the provisions of Subpart 3 of Part I of Title 50 of the Louisiana
7	Administrative Code, LAC 50:I.3101 et seq., authorize the Department of Health and
8	Hospitals, hereafter referred to as the "department", to implement a system of Medicaid
9	managed care known officially as "coordinated care networks"; and
10	WHEREAS, this Medicaid managed care program is known commonly as "Bayou
11	Health"; and
12	WHEREAS, the stated purposes of Bayou Health are to achieve cost savings and
13	promote better health outcomes by providing Medicaid funding to private insurance
14	companies to manage health care delivery for a majority of the Medicaid enrollees of this
15	state; and
16	WHEREAS, unlike in the segment of the Medicaid program that the department still
17	manages directly, the pharmacy subprogram of which is regulated by R.S. 46:153.3, the
18	Bayou Health plans are not required to utilize pharmaceutical and therapeutics committees
19	to develop prescription drug formularies through an open process which allows for public
20	input; and
21	WHEREAS, the lack of transparency in the development of the Bayou Health plans'
22	drug formularies is of particular concern to Medicaid enrollees who live with HIV/AIDS or
23	hepatitis C, or are coinfected with these diseases; and
24	WHEREAS, due to the pronounced fiscal and public health benefits of effective
25	disease management and preventive care for medically needy persons living with HIV/AIDS

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1	or hepatitis C, or who are coinfected, it is in the best interest of this state to remove
2	unnecessary impediments to such care; and
3	WHEREAS, open access to necessary prescription medications is a critical
4	component of disease management and preventive care for all persons living with HIV/AIDS
5	or hepatitis C, or who are coinfected.
6	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
7	Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Health and
8	Hospitals to study the most effective means by which to ensure open access to HIV/AIDS
9	and hepatitis C medications by enrollees in the Medicaid managed care program known as
10	"Bayou Health".
11	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall provide the findings of this
12	study in the form of a report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare on or before
13	December 31, 2013.
14	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
15	secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES