

---

## 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)]

---

Smith

HB No. 290

**Abstract:** Constitutional amendment directing the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to offer health insurance with essential health benefits to every legal resident of La. whose income is at or below 138% of the federal poverty level, and to allow the legislature to determine whether to continue the program when federal funding falls below 90% of the total program funding

Proposed constitutional amendment directs the Dept. of Health and Hospitals, effective Jan. 1, 2015, to administer a state program which makes available to every legal resident of this state whose income is at or below 138% of the federal poverty level access to health insurance with essential health benefits, as provided by federal law.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that the department shall make all necessary state Medicaid plan amendments or waiver applications to the federal government in order to access all federal funding available for the provision of health care services, including but not limited to funds available through the Affordable Care Act, or any successor to that Act.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that the legislature shall annually appropriate the state and federal revenues necessary to fund this program to provide health insurance for this eligible population, except that, if total funding to operate this state program is comprised of less than 90% federal funds, the legislature shall have the authority to decide whether to continue the program.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 4, 2014.

(Adds Const. Art. XII, §17)