

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 39

BY SENATOR HEITMEIER

HEALTH/HOSPITALS DEPT. Requests the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the most effective means to ensure the proper utilization of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder medications in Louisiana and to report its findings to the legislature.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the most effective
3 means to ensure the proper utilization of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
4 medications in Louisiana and to report its findings to the Senate Committee on
5 Health and Welfare and the House Committee on Health and Welfare.

6 WHEREAS, the use of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
7 medications among Americans rose thirty-five point five percent from 2008 to 2012; and

8 WHEREAS, the number of young adults ages twenty-six to thirty-four taking
9 medications for ADHD has nearly doubled nationwide from three hundred forty thousand
10 in 2008 to six hundred forty thousand in 2012; and

11 WHEREAS, Louisiana has the second highest proportion of residents in the country
12 on an ADHD medication at four point seven percent for the population as a whole; and

13 WHEREAS, thirteen point six percent of boys ages twelve to eighteen in Louisiana
14 are on an ADHD medication; and

15 WHEREAS, Louisiana has the highest number of older girls and young women on
16 ADHD treatments in the country, with seven point eight percent of girls ages twelve to
17 eighteen and eight percent of women ages nineteen to twenty-five on an ADHD medication;
18 and

1 WHEREAS, there are risks associated with the use of ADHD medications, including
2 addiction and adverse reactions in patients with cardiovascular disease or related conditions;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, ADHD medications may also increase risks of other psychiatric
5 conditions and can cause seizures if taken in high doses; and

6 WHEREAS, one in eight teenagers has misused or abused ADHD medications at
7 least once in his lifetime; and

8 WHEREAS, almost one in ten teenagers has misused or abused ADHD medications
9 in the past year; and

10 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana finds that ensuring the proper utilization
11 of ADHD medication is an important public health priority for the state.

12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
13 urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the most effective means
14 to ensure the proper utilization of ADHD medications in Louisiana and to report its findings
15 to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and the House Committee on Health and
16 Welfare.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the study, the department may
18 engage, collaborate with, and obtain information and perspective from stakeholder groups
19 with an interest in the proper utilization of ADHD medications.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall provide the findings of this
21 study in the form of a report to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and the House
22 Committee on Health and Welfare on or before February 1, 2015.

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

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christopher D. Adams.

DIGEST

Heitmeier

SCR No. 39

Requests the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the most effective means to ensure the proper utilization of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) medications in Louisiana and to report its findings to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and the House Committee on Health and Welfare.