

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY REPRESENTATIVE ALFRED WILLIAMS

HEALTH: Requests the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the use of a mode of transportation other than an ambulance in a nonemergency situation

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To authorize and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the feasibility,  
3 desirability, and practicality of a mode of transportation other than an ambulance to  
4 transport a patient in a nonemergency situation.

5 WHEREAS, an ambulance can be used to transport a patient to the site of medically-  
6 necessary health care in both emergency and nonemergency situations; and

7 WHEREAS, a mode of transportation other than an ambulance may provide a safe,  
8 reliable, and cost-effective transportation option for patients who are not in a life-threatening  
9 situation or in need of immediate medical attention; and

10 WHEREAS, a mode of transportation other than an ambulance may be a feasible  
11 option for a patient who needs no medical equipment; and

12 WHEREAS, a mode of transportation other than an ambulance may also be feasible  
13 for a patient who needs no medical monitoring or medical observation as confirmed by a  
14 physician; and

15 WHEREAS, a mode of transportation other than an ambulance may be more practical  
16 for a patient who needs routine nonemergent transportation to or from a medical  
17 appointment; and

18 WHEREAS, an alternative mode of transportation that is properly equipped and  
19 staffed may also be a viable choice for a patient who is convalescent or otherwise bed  
20 confined and does not require aid, care, observation, or treatment during transport; and

1           WHEREAS, there may be a more cost-effective mode of transportation than an  
2 ambulance for certain nonemergency medical situations; and

3           WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the Department of Health and Hospitals to oversee,  
4 regulate, and protect the health and welfare of the people of Louisiana; and

5           WHEREAS, it should be a fundamental policy goal of the Department of Health and  
6 Hospitals to research the feasibility of the transport of nonemergent stretcher-bound patients  
7 in a licensed, regulated, and properly-equipped and staffed vehicle other than an ambulance  
8 in a manner which does not compromise patient care or outcome; and

9           WHEREAS, the availability and costs of medical transportation services and the  
10 needs of the people utilizing such services are of vital concern to the legislature.

11           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
12 authorize and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the feasibility,  
13 desirability, and practicality of a mode of transportation other than an ambulance in a  
14 nonemergency situation if the patient needs no medical equipment, needs no medical  
15 monitoring or medical observation as confirmed in writing by a physician, and needs routine  
16 nonemergent transportation to or from a medical appointment and the patient is convalescent  
17 or otherwise bed confined and does not require aid, care, observation, or treatment during  
18 transport.

19           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall submit a written report of  
20 its findings and conclusions, including any recommendations for legislation relative to the  
21 issue, to the legislature not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2015 Regular  
22 Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

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

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#### 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)]

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Alfred Williams

HCR No. 109

Authorizes and requests the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to study the feasibility, desirability, and practicality of a mode of transportation other than an ambulance in certain nonemergency situations.