

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 159

BY REPRESENTATIVE STUART BISHOP

HEALTH SERVICES: Creates a task force to study the prospective establishment of art therapist as a licensed profession

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To create the Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation to study the prospective
3 establishment of art therapist as a licensed profession in Louisiana and to request that
4 the task force report to the legislative committees on health and welfare on or before
5 December 31, 2014, with a baseline framework for licensure of art therapists and
6 regulation of the practice of art therapy.

7 WHEREAS, art therapy is a widely recognized and respected mental health
8 profession; and

9 WHEREAS, the profession of art therapy integrates psychotherapeutic principles,
10 art media, and the creative process for clinical mental health diagnosing, increasing
11 awareness of self and others, and promoting developmentally appropriate academic and
12 social interaction; and

13 WHEREAS, in the clinical realm, art therapy helps clients to achieve important
14 goals, including but not limited to the following:

- 15 (1) Coping with symptoms, stress, and traumatic experiences.
- 16 (2) Improving cognitive abilities.
- 17 (3) Addressing developmental, behavioral, mental, and emotional needs; and

18 WHEREAS, in Louisiana and elsewhere, art therapy is practiced in a wide variety
19 of settings, including hospitals, psychiatric and rehabilitation facilities, wellness centers,
20 forensic institutions, schools, crisis centers, senior communities, private practices, and other
21 clinical and community settings; and

1 WHEREAS, establishing the licensed profession of art therapist in Louisiana is
2 necessary not only to meet community needs for mental health services but to protect the
3 public, as full professional licensure, along with appropriate standards and regulations for
4 the profession, will ensure that only properly educated, trained, and credentialed
5 professionals are officially recognized as art therapists and are permitted, exclusively, to use
6 "art therapist" as a professional title in this state.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
8 create the Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation to study prospective
9 establishment of art therapist as a licensed profession in Louisiana.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of the
11 following members:

12 (1) Two representatives of the Louisiana Art Therapy Association, one of whom
13 shall be the chairperson of the subcommittee for licensure of the association, and one of
14 whom shall be the president of the association or his designee.

15 (2) The executive director of the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board
16 of Examiners or his designee.

17 (3) The president of the Louisiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy or
18 his designee.

19 (4) The executive director of the Louisiana Counseling Association or his designee.

20 (5) The state superintendent of education or his designee.

21 (6) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.

22 (7) The executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of
23 Psychologists or his designee.

24 (8) The president of the Louisiana Psychological Association or his designee.

25 (9) The executive director of the National Association of Social Workers, Louisiana
26 Chapter, or his designee.

27 (10) The president of the Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers or his
28 designee.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall convene on or before
30 September 1, 2014.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before December 31, 2014, the task force
2 shall submit a written report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate
3 Committee on Health and Welfare providing a baseline framework for licensure of art
4 therapists and regulation of the practice of art therapy.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
6 president of the Louisiana Art Therapy Association, the executive director of the Louisiana
7 Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners, the president of the Louisiana
8 Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the executive director of the Louisiana
9 Counseling Association, the state superintendent of education, the secretary of the
10 Department of Health and Hospitals, the executive director of the Louisiana State Board of
11 Examiners of Psychologists, the president of the Louisiana Psychological Association, the
12 executive director of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers,
13 and the president of the Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers.

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)]

Stuart Bishop

HCR No. 159

Creates the Task Force on Art Therapist Licensure and Regulation to study the prospective establishment of art therapist as a licensed profession in Louisiana and to report to the legislative committees on health and welfare on or before Dec. 31, 2014, with a baseline framework for licensure of art therapists and regulation of the practice of art therapy.