

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY REPRESENTATIVE ALFRED WILLIAMS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE