

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           (11) The president of the Louisiana Hospital Association or his designee.

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

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

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

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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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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.

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill.

1. Added the president of the Louisiana Hospital Association or his designee as a task force member.