

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

BY SENATORS THOMPSON, KOSTELKA, PEACOCK, WALSWORTH AND WHITE  
AND REPRESENTATIVES CHANEY, HOFFMANN, JACKSON AND  
POPE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To authorize and direct the Louisiana Emergency Response Network (LERN) to organize and facilitate a working group of healthcare providers who deal with victims of trauma to develop recommendations for a Level III Trauma Center in Northeast Louisiana.

WHEREAS, throughout the state an ongoing need exists to improve the quality of care delivered to trauma victims; however, the need is especially critical in the northeastern part of the state, designated by the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) as Region Eight, where no centers verified by the American College of Surgeons as Level III are located; and

WHEREAS, the American College of Surgeons, Committee on Trauma, recommends that all organized trauma systems focus on the goal of providing broad coverage based upon the "golden hour" concept referring to the critical first hour following injury; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, over fifty percent of LERN-identified trauma victims in Region Eight were transferred out of the region, with the vast majority transferred to Shreveport for treatment, creating extended transfer time, often beyond the optimal "golden hour"; and

WHEREAS, LERN is an agency of state government created by the legislature in 2004 and charged with the responsibility of developing and maintaining a statewide system of care coordination for patients suddenly stricken by serious traumatic injury or time-sensitive illness; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a data registry to track the outcomes for victims of trauma in the region would be an integral component of any region-wide effort to better outcomes through the establishment of a Level III Trauma center in the region.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish and create the Region Eight Trauma Center Work Group to study and recommend steps to improve the outcomes for trauma victims in the northeastern region of the state

through the establishment of a Level III Trauma Center in the region and to establish a data registry to track the outcomes of victims of trauma in the region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, prior to July 15, 2015, the executive director of LERN shall notify the primary trauma network providers of the goals of the work group and the process of naming representatives and reporting those names to the executive director of LERN.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each of the following groups shall notify the executive director of LERN in writing no later than August 15, 2015, of the selection of one representative who will be a voting member of the work group. Each group shall also name a designee who can attend the meetings when the selected representative is unable to attend.

The groups are as follows:

(1) Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center/E.A. Conway Medical Center in Monroe, Louisiana.

(2) Louisiana State University Shreveport Medical Center.

(3) St. Francis Medical Center in Monroe, Louisiana.

(4) Glenwood Regional Medical Center in West Monroe, Louisiana.

(5) LERN Region Eight Commission.

(6) Emergency Medical Services providers who shall select a single member among the numerous providers serving Region Eight.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that LERN will coordinate meetings, provide minutes of the meetings, and conduct all administrative duties as requested by the work group.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the representatives serving on the work group shall serve without compensation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the executive director of LERN, who shall serve as chairperson for the work group, shall call the first meeting of the group no later than September 1, 2015, and the work group shall have a minimum of four meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that LERN shall provide any information obtained from the American College of Surgeons or other emergency response networks from around the country that would appear useful to the work group or is requested by the work group.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Region Eight Trauma Center Work Group shall present its written report to the executive director of LERN on or before January 1, 2016. Such report shall detail the recommended steps, a timeline, and a list of the resources necessary to improving trauma outcomes in northeastern Louisiana through the establishment of a Level III Trauma Center in the region and the establishment of a data registry in order to track the outcomes for trauma victims in the area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the executive director of LERN.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES