

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 443

BY SENATOR HEWITT

FISCAL CONTROLS. Provides for mandatory meetings of the Health and Social Services Estimating Conference for purposes of developing budget recommendations for the Medicaid program. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 39:21.3(E)(1) and (2) and to enact R.S. 39:21.3(E)(4), relative  
3 to the Health and Social Services Estimating Conference; to provide for the duties  
4 of the conference; to provide for mandatory meetings of the conference for the  
5 purpose of developing budget recommendations for the Medicaid program; to  
6 provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 39:21.3(E)(1) and (2) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
9 39:21.3(E)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §21.3. Consensus estimating conferences; duties and principals

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12 E. Health and Social Services Estimating Conference.

13 (1) Duties. The Health and Social Services Estimating Conference shall  
14 develop such official information relating to the health and social service system of  
15 the state, including forecasts of social and health service caseloads, **including but**  
16 **not limited to the number of Medicaid enrollees, the categories under which**  
17 **Medicaid eligibles enroll, and the utilization of healthcare services within the**

1        **Medicaid program**, as the conference determines is needed for the state planning  
2        and budgeting system.

3                (2) Principals. The principals of the Health and Social Services Estimating  
4        Conference are as follows:

5                (a) **The chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, or his**  
6        **designee.**

7                (b) **The chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, or his**  
8        **designee.**

9                (c) **The chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, or his designee.**

10               (d) **The chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, or his**  
11        **designee.**

12               (e) **The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, or his**  
13        **designee.**

14               (f) **The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, or**  
15        **his designee.**

16               (g) A member of the professional staff of the office of the governor to be  
17        appointed by the governor.

18               (b) ~~(h)~~ **(h)** A member of the professional staff of the division of administration  
19        to be appointed by the commissioner of administration.

20               ~~(i)~~ **(i)** A member of the professional staff of the legislature who shall have  
21        forecasting expertise to be appointed by the president of the Senate.

22               ~~(j)~~ **(j)** A member of the professional staff of the legislature who shall have  
23        forecasting expertise to be appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

24               ~~(k)~~ **(k)** A member of the professional staff of the Department of Health and  
25        Hospitals who shall have forecasting expertise to be appointed by the secretary of the  
26        Department of Health and Hospitals.

27               ~~(l)~~ **(l)** A member of the professional staff of the Department of Children and  
28        Family Services who shall have forecasting expertise to be appointed by the  
29        secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services.

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**(4) Meetings. The conference shall meet at least three times per year as follows:**

**(a) In September, to establish an initial forecast for the ensuing fiscal year which shall be utilized by the Department of Health and Hospitals in formulating its budget request.**

**(b) In December, to revise the forecast for the ensuing fiscal year which shall be utilized in the preparation of the executive budget recommendations by the state budget office.**

**(c) In April, to revise the forecast for the ensuing fiscal year which shall be utilized by the legislature in its adoption of a state budget for the ensuing fiscal year.**

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Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Martha S. Hess.

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DIGEST

SB 443 Original 2016 Regular Session Hewitt

Present law provides the duties of the Health and Social Services Estimating Conference to be developing official information relating to the health and social service system of the state, including forecasts of social and health service caseloads, as the conference determines is needed for the state planning and budgeting system.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the forecasts of social and health service caseloads shall include but not be limited to the number of Medicaid enrollees, the categories under which Medicaid eligibles enroll, and the utilization of healthcare services within the Medicaid program.

Present law provides for the principals of the Conference as:

- (1) A member of the professional staff of the office of the governor to be appointed by the governor.

- (2) A member of the professional staff of the division of administration to be appointed by the commissioner of administration.
- (3) A member of the professional staff of the legislature who shall have forecasting expertise to be appointed by the president of the Senate.
- (4) A member of the professional staff of the legislature who shall have forecasting expertise to be appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (5) A member of the professional staff of the Department of Health and Hospitals who shall have forecasting expertise to be appointed by the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.
- (6) A member of the professional staff of the Department of Children and Family Services who shall have forecasting expertise to be appointed by the secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services.

Proposed law retains present law and adds as principals to the conference:

- (1) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, or his designee.
- (2) The chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, or his designee.
- (3) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, or his designee.
- (4) The chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, or his designee.
- (5) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, or his designee.
- (6) The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, or his designee.

Present law provides that the principal representing the office of the governor shall preside over sessions of the conference.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that the conference shall meet at least three times per year as follows:

- (1) In September, to establish an initial forecast for the ensuing fiscal year which shall be utilized by the Department of Health and Hospitals in formulating its budget request.
- (2) In December, to revise the forecast for the ensuing fiscal year which shall be utilized in the preparation of the executive budget recommendations by the state budget office.
- (3) In April, to revise the forecast for the ensuing fiscal year which shall be utilized by the legislature in its adoption of a state budget for the ensuing fiscal year.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 39:21.3(E)(1) and (2); adds R.S. 39:21.3(E)(4))