

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 86

BY REPRESENTATIVE SIMON

HEALTH/HOME CARE: Creates a study committee on family caregiving and long-term supports

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To establish a study committee on family caregiving and long-term supports and services,
3 and to direct the committee to report recommendations for legislative and
4 administrative actions to support family caregivers to the legislative committees on
5 health and welfare.

6 WHEREAS, the number of persons in this state who are eighty-five years of age or
7 older and most likely to need caregiving assistance is projected to surpass one hundred
8 twenty-six thousand by 2030; and

9 WHEREAS, almost all older adults who need assistance with activities of daily
10 living wish to remain in their homes and communities as they age; and

11 WHEREAS, providing services and supports to older adults in their homes and
12 communities is generally much less expensive than nursing home care; and

13 WHEREAS, older adults who receive services from caregivers in their homes are
14 much less likely to need public assistance; and

15 WHEREAS, almost three-fourths of older people living in the community who
16 receive personal assistance rely exclusively on unpaid caregivers for help; and

17 WHEREAS, an estimated six hundred twenty-seven thousand family caregivers in
18 Louisiana provide care to adult relatives or friends, with the economic value of this care
19 estimated to be roughly five billion seven hundred million dollars annually; and

20 WHEREAS, Louisiana ranks thirty-seventh in the nation for support of unpaid family
21 caregivers; and

1 WHEREAS, to successfully accommodate the surging population of older adults who
2 have significant needs for long-term services and supports, this state must implement
3 policies to encourage and support families in assisting their aging relatives, and institute best
4 practices for recruiting and retaining a qualified, responsive in-home care workforce.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
6 establish a study committee on family caregiving and long-term supports and services.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study committee shall be composed of the
8 following members:

9 (1) One member representing the Louisiana Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

10 (2) One member representing the office of aging and adult services of the
11 Department of Health and Hospitals.

12 (3) One member representing AARP Louisiana.

13 (4) One member representing the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network.

14 (5) One member representing the Louisiana-Mississippi Chapter of the ALS
15 Association.

16 (6) One member representing the Louisiana State University School of Social Work.

17 (7) One member representing the Tulane University School of Public Health and
18 Tropical Medicine.

19 (8) One member representing the Louisiana Hospital Association.

20 (9) One member representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry.

21 (10) One member representing the Louisiana Councils On Aging.

22 (11) One member representing eQHealth Solutions.

23 (12) One member representing the interests of healthcare consumers appointed by
24 the attorney general.

25 (13) One member appointed by the governor.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at its initial meeting, the study committee
27 members shall elect a chairperson, and shall adopt rules of procedure and any other policies
28 as may be necessary to facilitate the work of the group.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the functions of the study committee shall
30 include, without limitation, the following:

1 (1) Identifying policies, resources, and programs available for family caregivers.

2 (2) Promoting innovative and creative means to support the ability of family
3 caregivers to provide needed in-home support for older adults.

4 (3) Soliciting input and perspective on policies and practices relative to family
5 caregiving including designation of caregivers, training requirements, respite services,
6 medical leave policies, delegation of tasks to non-medical aides, and other policies
7 supporting quality in-home care.

8 (4) Compiling an inventory of resources available to family caregivers in this state.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study committee shall submit a written
10 report of recommendations for legislative and administrative actions to support family
11 caregivers to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on
12 Health and Welfare on or before January 31, 2016.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislative authority for the study committee
14 shall terminate thirty days after the convening of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature
15 of Louisiana.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
17 executive director of the Louisiana Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, the secretary of
18 the Department of Health and Hospitals, the state director of AARP Louisiana, the Louisiana
19 grassroots manager of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, the executive
20 director of the Louisiana-Mississippi Chapter of the ALS Association, the director of the
21 Louisiana State University School of Social Work, the dean of the Tulane University School
22 of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Hospital
23 Association, the president of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, the director
24 of the governor's office of elderly affairs, the chief executive officer of eQHealth Solutions,
25 the attorney general, and the governor.

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)]

HCR 86 Original

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