

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT STUDY REQUEST NO. 2

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON

MEDICAID: Requests a study of the feasibility of the La. Children and Youth Health Insurance Program providing for reimbursement of health care services delivered at schools

1 A CONCURRENT STUDY REQUEST

2 To the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and
3 Welfare to meet and to function as a joint committee to study the feasibility of the
4 Louisiana Children and Youth Health Insurance Program funding school-based
5 health services and to report the findings of the joint committee to the legislature
6 prior to December 15, 2011.

7 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Children and Youth Health Insurance Program (LaCHIP)
8 is part of Louisiana's Medicaid program and is the largest provider of health insurance for
9 children of low-income families in this state; and

10 WHEREAS, LaCHIP ranks highly on a national basis among like programs in terms
11 of enrolling eligible families; and

12 WHEREAS, despite the success of LaCHIP in enrolling eligible families, health
13 outcomes for children in this state are among the worst in the nation; and

14 WHEREAS, Louisiana has poor outcomes not only in the physical health of children
15 but in children's mental health as well; and

16 WHEREAS, nurses in schools play a significant role in children's health care,
17 administering medications and referring children to physicians and mental health services;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, school systems have Medicare and Medicaid provider numbers and can
20 be reimbursed by these programs for services to eligible children; and

1 WHEREAS, Medicaid funds school-based health services presently but on a limited
2 basis, reimbursing school systems only for services rendered by nurses to disabled
3 Medicaid-eligible children who require nursing services as outlined in the Individualized
4 Education Plans (IEPs) of those children; and

5 WHEREAS, IEPs are required by federal law to ensure that children with disabilities
6 receive services necessary for academic success; and

7 WHEREAS, expanding Medicaid reimbursement for school-based health services
8 beyond a limited group of children with disabilities can greatly enhance overall medical care
9 in the setting where children spend most of their day; and

10 WHEREAS, strategic investments in children's health, such as expanding Medicaid
11 reimbursement for school-based health services, can produce a positive and sizeable fiscal
12 impact; and

13 WHEREAS, such positive fiscal impact can result from the prevention of chronic
14 diseases in childhood which diminish future adult productivity and are extremely costly to
15 treat.

16 THEREFORE, the Legislature of Louisiana requests the House Committee on Health
17 and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to meet and to function as a
18 joint committee to study the feasibility of the Louisiana Children and Youth Health
19 Insurance Program funding school-based health services and to report the findings of the
20 joint committee to the legislature prior to December 15, 2011. The committees shall engage
21 the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Department of Children and Family Services
22 in developing the report, which shall provide information and data including but not limited
23 to statistics on annual expenditures of Medicaid funds for school-based health services
24 delivered in Louisiana for the previous five years, and a listing of all entities which have
25 received Medicaid reimbursement for school-based health services delivered in Louisiana
26 in the previous five years.

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)]

Harrison

HCSR No. 2

Requests the House and Senate committees on health and welfare to jointly study the feasibility of LaCHIP funding school-based health services.

Requests that the committees report findings to the legislature prior to Dec. 15, 2011.

Directs the committees to engage the Dept. of Health and Hospitals and the Dept. of Children and Family Services in developing the report.

Requires that the report provide information and data including but not limited to statistics on annual expenditures of Medicaid funds for school-based health services delivered in La. for the previous five years, and a listing of all entities which have received Medicaid reimbursement for school-based health services delivered in La. in the previous five years.