

2017 First Extraordinary Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 10

BY SENATOR MILLS

HEALTH/HOSPITALS DEPT. Requests the health profession licensing boards to work with the commissioner of administration to identify funds from their cash and cash equivalent year-end balances that can be transferred into the state general fund.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the health profession licensing boards statutorily placed within the  
3 Louisiana Department of Health to work with the commissioner of administration  
4 to identify funds from their cash and cash equivalent year-end balances that can be  
5 transferred into the state general fund.

6 WHEREAS, there are twenty-five health profession licensing boards statutorily  
7 placed within the Louisiana Department of Health; and

8 WHEREAS, these boards have been created by the legislature to ensure the health,  
9 welfare, and safety of the patients that utilize the services of the individuals licensed by the  
10 boards; and

11 WHEREAS, the licensing boards have been given authority to impose fees to cover  
12 the cost of ensuring that qualified individuals are licensed to practice in their respective  
13 health related fields; and

14 WHEREAS, the licensing boards have been given authority to impose fines and  
15 monetary sanctions as a penalty in disciplinary actions against licensed individuals; and

16 WHEREAS, based on information requested from the office of the Louisiana  
17 legislative auditor, it appears that many of the licensing boards are operating with substantial  
18 cash and cash equivalent fund balances, amassing considerable reserves in their individual

1 board bank accounts; and

2 WHEREAS, the monies collected by the licensing boards are not deposited into the  
3 state treasury; and

4 WHEREAS, although maintained as separate bank accounts, there is nothing to  
5 prevent the licensing boards from depositing funds into the state treasury; and

6 WHEREAS, during a financial crisis everyone should step up and willingly do their  
7 part to help, and as a statutorily created entity placed within a state government agency, the  
8 twenty-five health profession licensing boards should be no different; and

9 WHEREAS, the commissioner of administration should work with the twenty-five  
10 health profession licensing boards to identify fund balances that may be deposited into the  
11 state treasury.

12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
13 does hereby urge and request the health profession licensing boards statutorily placed within  
14 the Louisiana Department of Health to work with the commissioner of administration to  
15 identify funds from their cash and cash equivalent year-end balances that can be transferred  
16 into the state general fund.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commissioner shall develop a template for  
18 the collection of data from the licensing boards to ensure consistency in reporting of  
19 collected data, including a five year fiscal worksheet that provides:

20 (1) Expenses.

21 (2) Income from fees.

22 (3) Revenue from income, including revenue from licenses, permits and fines  
23 identified separately.

24 (4) Amount generated from fines and penalties.

25 (5) All board liabilities.

26 (6) All restricted funds and explanation of specific restrictions.

27 (7) Where all funds reside, including all banks or financial institutions if there is  
28 more than one.

29 (8) Any other information the commissioner deems relevant.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commissioner shall distribute the template

1 as expeditiously as possible and the licensing boards shall provide the requested information  
 2 in conformance with the template on a date set by the commissioner, which shall be no later  
 3 than May 1, 2017.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commissioner shall develop a plan and make  
 5 recommendations on the mechanism and amounts of a fund transfer from the licensing  
 6 boards to the state treasury and shall submit such plan to the Senate Committee on Finance  
 7 and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare no later than May 15, 2017.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
 9 secretary of the Department of Health, the commissioner of administration, the executive  
 10 directors of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, Louisiana State Board of Dentistry,  
 11 Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, Louisiana State Board of Optometry  
 12 Examiners, Louisiana State Board of Examiners for Sanitarians, Louisiana State Board of  
 13 Practical Nurse Examiners, Louisiana Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Louisiana State  
 14 Board of Medical Examiners, Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors,  
 15 Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, Louisiana Board of Examiners for  
 16 Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Louisiana Board of Veterinary Medicine,  
 17 Louisiana Board of Examiners for Nursing Facility Administrators, Louisiana Board of  
 18 Pharmacy, Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers, Louisiana Radiologic Technology  
 19 Board of Examiners, Louisiana Physical Therapy Board, Louisiana Licensed Professional  
 20 Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners, Louisiana Addictive Disorder  
 21 Regulatory Authority, Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board, Louisiana Board of Drug and  
 22 Device Distributors, Louisiana Board of Examiners in Dietetics and Nutrition, Louisiana  
 23 Board of Massage Therapy, Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of  
 24 Examiners and the Louisiana State Board of Electrolysis Examiners.

---

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

---

DIGEST

SR 10 Original

2017 First Extraordinary Session

Mills

Requests the health profession licensing boards statutorily placed within the Louisiana Department of Health to work with the commissioner of administration to identify funds from their cash and cash equivalent year-end balances that can be transferred into the state general fund.