

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 51

BY REPRESENTATIVE JACKSON

PUBLIC HEALTH: Authorizes and directs the La. Department of Health to issue rules requiring reporting of immunization information

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To authorize and direct the Louisiana Department of Health to promulgate administrative
3 rules requiring reporting of immunization information.

4 WHEREAS, the office of public health within the Louisiana Department of Health
5 operates the Louisiana Immunization Network for Kids Statewide system, better known by
6 the acronym "LINKS"; and

7 WHEREAS, LINKS is a web application that allows enrolled users to search for
8 patients in a central registry and to view the patients' vaccination records; additionally,
9 authorized users can add and edit patient information and vaccination records, as well as
10 maintain data on facilities, physicians, and vaccine lot numbers; and

11 WHEREAS, healthcare providers generally regard LINKS and the immunizations
12 program of the office of public health as very successful public health initiatives of this state;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the software through which LINKS is operated has the capability for
15 recording adult vaccinations as well as those for children, and could do so without
16 programming changes; and

WHEREAS, the problem of adults unknowingly receiving multiple doses of a vaccine is a costly one and can jeopardize the health of patients, particularly those who are elderly or have chronic conditions; and

1 WHEREAS, it is important to recognize as public health priorities the need to
2 decrease the cost to our healthcare system of repeat vaccinations and the need to eliminate
3 the risk of the wrong vaccines being administered; and

4 WHEREAS, if put to its optimal use, the LINKS software which Louisiana is paying
5 for today can help to improve public health in our state in the very near future at no
6 additional cost; and

7 WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Title 40 and Title 49 of the Louisiana
8 Revised Statutes of 1950, the Louisiana Department of Health has the authority to provide
9 for and protect public health in this state through administrative rules duly promulgated in
10 accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
12 authorize and direct the Louisiana Department of Health to require through administrative
13 rulemaking that all physicians, nurses, and other healthcare providers, including pharmacies,
14 that administer immunizations to children or adults in this state shall record immunization
15 information using the LINKS system software.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
17 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and to each member of the board of
18 directors of the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians.

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 51 Original

2017 Regular Session

Jackson

Authorizes and directs the La. Dept. of Health to require through administrative rulemaking that all physicians, nurses, and other healthcare providers, including pharmacies, that administer immunizations to children or adults in this state shall record immunization information using the software which operates the La. Immunization Network for Kids Statewide (LINKS) system.