DIGEST

SB 166 Original          2020 Regular Session          Hewitt

Present law provides for the duties of the Health and Social Services Estimating Conference to
develop such 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 for the exclusion of the Medicaid program from the
duties of the Health and Social Services Estimating Conference.

Proposed law repeals present law providing for the Medicaid Subcommittee of the Health and Social
Services Estimating Conference.

Present law provides that the Medicaid Subcommittee is responsible for developing forecasts and
reviewing information related to the Medicaid Program, including the number of Medicaid enrollees,
eligibility criteria, rate of utilization and growth in the cost of services, provider reimbursement
methodologies, and the factors used in developing the per-member-per-month premiums paid to the
Medicaid managed care companies.

Present law provides that the Medicaid Subcommittee is composed of the following persons:

(1)     One member of the professional staff of the division of administration to be appointed by the
        commissioner of administration.

(2)     One member of the professional staff of the legislature who shall have fiscal expertise to be
        appointed by the president of the Senate.

(3)     One member of the professional staff of the legislature who shall have fiscal expertise to be
        appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

(4)     One member of the professional staff of DHH who shall have forecasting expertise to be
        appointed by the secretary of DHH.

(5)     The legislative fiscal officer, or his designee who shall have healthcare experience.

(6)     A faculty member specializing in healthcare economics to be selected by members of the
        conference.

Present law provides that the chairmanship of the subcommittee rotate biennially among the
professional legislative staff appointed by the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House

of Representatives.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the subcommittee is to meet as follows:

(1)      In September, to establish an initial forecast for the ensuing fiscal year which shall be utilized by DHH 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.

(4)      In July, to discuss the forecast for the current fiscal year as compared to the current year appropriation.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the subcommittee submits a summary report to the conference of topics discussed and any actions taken.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the subcommittee shall submit the Medicaid forecast to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget for its review. The chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget must place the presentation of the Medicaid forecast on the agenda for discussion at the next month's meeting following the submission by the subcommittee.

<u>Proposed law</u> creates the Medicaid Estimating Conference and provides for its duties to develop the official forecast of the Medicaid program for the purposes of budget development and enactment each fiscal year and development of the five-year baseline budget projection relative to the Medicaid Program.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the Medicaid forecast shall be adopted by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the conference's members.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for the principals, or membership, of the conference:

(1)      The president of the Senate, or his designee from the membership of the Senate.

(2)      The speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee from the membership of the House of Representatives.

(3)      The chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, or his designee from the membership of the Committee on Finance.

(4)      The chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, or his designee from the membership of the Committee on Appropriations.

(5)     The chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, or his designee from the membership of the Committee on Health and Welfare.

(6)     The chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, or his designee from the membership of the Committee on Health and Welfare.

(7)     The commissioner of administration, or his designee.

(8)     The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), or his designee.

(9)     A faculty member specializing in healthcare economics from a public or private university in the state, selected by the other principal members, from a list of as many as five, but not less than three names, submitted to them by the Board of Regents.

Proposed law provides for the chairmanship of the conference to rotate:

(1)     Coterminous to 2020-2024 term of the legislature, the president of the Senate, or his designee, shall preside over the meetings of the conference.

(2)     Beginning with the commencement of the 2024-2028 term of the legislature, the chairmanship of the conference shall rotate biennially among the president of the Senate, or his designee, and the speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee, beginning with the president of the Senate, or his designee.

Proposed law provides for the participants to the conference that may provide information for the conference's consideration in developing its forecasts:

(1)     A member of the professional staff of LDH specializing in healthcare economics and possessing experience forecasting healthcare expenditures to be designated by the secretary of LDH.

(2)     A member of the professional staff of the legislative fiscal office specializing in healthcare economics and possessing experience forecasting healthcare expenditures to be designated by the legislative fiscal officer.

(3)     Members of the professional staff of the Senate, House of Representatives, legislative fiscal office, or division of administration with fiscal expertise on the Medicaid program.

(4)     Members of the professional staff of LDH with expertise on the administering, operating, or financing of the Medicaid program.

(5)     Any other person invited to participate in the conference by a principal.

Proposed law provides for the meetings of the conference. The conference is to meet at least three times per fiscal year as to ensure that the forecast is utilized by the division of administration in the

development of the budget, the legislature in the enactment of the budget, and the division of administration and Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget in the determination of expenditures to include in the development of the five-year baseline budget projection relative to the Medicaid Program.

Proposed law provides for the conference to go into executive session to discuss records or matters entitled to confidential status by existing state or federal laws, upon approval by a majority of the principals in attendance.

Proposed law provides for the president of the Senate to designate a member of the professional staff of the Senate with fiscal expertise on the Medicaid program to staff the conference.

Proposed law provides for the conference to submit each adopted forecast to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget for its review. The chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget shall then place the presentation of the Medicaid forecast on the agenda for discussion at the next month's regular meeting following the submission by the conference.

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

(Amends R.S. 39:21.3(E)(1); adds R.S. 39:21.3(H); repeals R.S. 39:21.3(E)(4) and (5))