

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 846

BY REPRESENTATIVES KNOX, ADAMS, DEWITT, FISHER, FREEMAN, FREIBERG,
LAFLEUR, AND ZERINGUE

FISCAL CONTROLS: Provides relative to reporting on federal and state funding of mental health services

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 39:82.3, relative to the reporting of federal and state funds allocated to

3 providing mental health services; to provide relative to funds allocated to providing

4 mental health services across state agencies and school systems; to require reporting

5 by the division of administration; to require reporting by the state Department of

6 Education; to provide for specific reports to the Joint Legislative Committee on the

7 Budget; to provide relative to the authority of the Joint Legislative Committee on the

8 Budget; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 39:82.3 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §82.3. Reporting on federal and state funds allocated to mental health services

12 A.(1) The division of administration, hereinafter referred to in this Section

13 as the "division", shall submit a report in accordance with the provisions of this

14 Subsection to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, hereinafter referred to

15 in this Subsection as "committee", regarding federal and state funding allocated to

16 providing mental health services across all state agencies. The report shall provide

17 information needed by policy makers to make informed decisions about mental

18 health services provided across the state of Louisiana.

1 (2) The division shall create and update annually the Mental Health Funding
2 Transparency Report. The division shall submit the report to the committee no later
3 than the first meeting of the committee after January 1st of each year. The
4 information shall be provided on a form as prescribed by the division and approved
5 by the committee. The report shall provide the funds spent by each state agency for
6 providing mental health services and shall include, at a minimum, the following:

7 (a) Budget unit.

8 (b) Program description.

9 (c) Means of finance.

10 (d) Funding source or name of grant.

11 (e) Service provided.

12 (f) Population served.

13 (g) Area served.

14 (h) Demographic data, including the number of individuals with disabilities.

15 (3) This Subsection shall not apply to the state Department of Education.

16 B.(1) The state Department of Education, hereinafter referred to in this
17 Section as the "department", shall submit a report in accordance with the provisions
18 of this Subsection to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, hereinafter
19 referred to in this Subsection as "committee", regarding federal and state funding
20 allocated to providing mental health services within the department and schools
21 across the state, including traditional public schools, charter schools, and any
22 nonpublic school receiving such funding.

23 (2) The department shall create and update annually the Mental Health
24 Funding Transparency in Elementary and Secondary Education Report. The
25 department shall submit the report to the committee no later than the first meeting
26 of the committee after January 1st of each year. The information shall be on a form
27 as prescribed by the department and approved by the committee. The report shall
28 provide the funds spent by the governing authority of each traditional public school,

1 charter school, and nonpublic school, as applicable, for providing mental health
2 services and shall include, at a minimum, the following:

- 3 (a) Budget unit.
- 4 (b) School governing authority.
- 5 (c) Program description.
- 6 (d) Means of finance.
- 7 (e) Funding source or name of grant.
- 8 (f) Service provided.
- 9 (g) Demographic data, including the number of individuals with disabilities.
- 10 (h) Grade level served.

11 (3) The department shall also submit a copy of the report to the House
12 Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education at the time the
13 report is submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

14 C. The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget may make such studies
15 and hold such hearings as it shall deem appropriate and necessary to review the
16 allocation of funds as provided in the reports required pursuant to this Section.

17 Section 2. This Act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

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)]

HB 846 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Knox

Abstract: Requires reporting on funding for mental health services across state agencies and schools.

Proposed law provides for the division of administration (division) to submit information to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) regarding federal and state funding allocated to providing mental health services across state agencies (except for the Dept. of Education). Provides for the division to create the Mental Health Funding Transparency Report and to update the report annually. Requires the report to be submitted to JLCB no later than the committee's first meeting after Jan. 1st of each year. Further provides for the form of the report to be prescribed by the division and approved by JLCB.

Proposed law provides for the state Dept. of Education (department) to submit information to JLCB regarding federal and state funding allocated to providing mental health services in schools. Provides for the department to create the Mental Health Funding Transparency in Elementary and Secondary Education Report and to update the report annually. Requires

the report to be submitted to JLCB no later than the committee's first meeting after Jan. 1st of each year. Further provides for the form of the report to be prescribed by the division and approved by JLCB. Also requires the report to be submitted to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

Proposed law authorizes JLCB to make studies and hearings to review the allocation of funds as provided in the reports.

Effective July 1, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 39:82.3)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the original bill:

1. Add additional categories for which the division of administration and the state Dept. of Education shall report.