

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 846

BY REPRESENTATIVES KNOX, ADAMS, BOYD, WILFORD CARTER, CHASSION, DEWITT, FISHER, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, HUGHES, JORDAN, LAFLEUR, MANDIE LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MOORE, MYERS, NEWELL, SELDERS, TAYLOR, WILLARD, AND ZERINGUE

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.

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

- 1                   (a) Budget unit.
- 2                   (b) Program description.
- 3                   (c) Means of finance.
- 4                   (d) Funding source or name of grant.
- 5                   (e) Service provided.
- 6                   (f) Population served.
- 7                   (g) Area served.
- 8                   (h) Demographic data, including the number of individuals with disabilities.

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

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

17                  (2) The department shall create and update annually the Mental Health  
18                  Funding Transparency in Elementary and Secondary Education Report. The  
19                  department shall submit the report to the committee no later than the first meeting  
20                  of the committee after January 1 of each year. The information shall be on a form  
21                  as prescribed by the department and approved by the committee. The report shall  
22                  provide the funds spent by the governing authority of each traditional public school,  
23                  charter school, and nonpublic school, as applicable, for providing mental health  
24                  services and shall include, at a minimum, the following:

- 25                   (a) Budget unit.
- 26                   (b) School governing authority.
- 27                   (c) Program description.
- 28                   (d) Means of finance.
- 29                   (e) Funding source or name of grant.
- 30                   (f) Service provided.

1                   (g) Demographic data, including the number of individuals with disabilities.

2                   (h) Grade level served.

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

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

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_