

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 161

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study prospective changes to Louisiana statutes and policies which could reduce the incidence of fetal exposure to controlled dangerous substances and alcohol and to report its findings to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

WHEREAS, a child subjected prenatally to controlled dangerous substances or alcohol has no ability to care for himself; and

WHEREAS, studies show that a child exposed to drugs or alcohol in utero can have serious and lifelong effects, including but not limited to conduct disorder, attachment disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, anger management issues, and learning disorders; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana expends significant resources annually providing assistance to those caring for a drug- or alcohol-exposed child; and

WHEREAS, every child has the right to a quality of life not impaired by fetal exposure to drugs or alcohol; and

WHEREAS, pregnant mothers should be advised by health care providers of the dangers of any drug or alcohol use during pregnancy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study prospective changes to Louisiana statutes and policies which could reduce the incidence of fetal exposure to controlled dangerous substances and alcohol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall provide its findings in the form of a report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on or before December 31, 2012.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE