

1 access a physician quickly through electronic means but could not also access a provider in
2 person at the same time; and

3 WHEREAS, the term "telehealth" encompasses telemedicine as well as other health
4 services which can be provided remotely through communication technologies; and

5 WHEREAS, common examples of telehealth services in practice include primary
6 care, medical specialty consultations, behavioral health services, and home monitoring of
7 chronic disease; and

8 WHEREAS, telehealth services could potentially address a great unmet need for
9 health care by persons who have limited access to both traditional health care settings and
10 to telemedicine as currently defined in Louisiana law; and

11 WHEREAS, if our state is to achieve much needed improvement in health outcomes,
12 a prudent and responsible policy for doing so would be to balance patient safety and access
13 to care through expanding access by Louisianians to telehealth services.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
15 urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study means by which to expand
16 access by Louisianians to telehealth services.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in developing the study, the department shall
18 engage, collaborate with, and obtain information and perspective from stakeholder groups
19 with appropriate expertise, including but not limited to the following organizations:

- 20 (1) The health care services division of the Louisiana State University System.
- 21 (2) The Tulane University School of Medicine.
- 22 (3) The Louisiana State Medical Society.
- 23 (4) The Louisiana Primary Care Association.
- 24 (5) The Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum.
- 25 (6) The HomeCare Association of Louisiana.
- 26 (7) The Louisiana Hospital Association.
- 27 (8) The Louisiana Association of Health Plans.
- 28 (9) The Louisiana Cable and Telecommunications Association.

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

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
5 secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, the president of the Louisiana State
6 University System, the dean of the Tulane University School of Medicine, the president of
7 the Louisiana State Medical Society, the executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care
8 Association, the executive director of the Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum, the chief
9 executive officer of the HomeCare Association of Louisiana, the president of the Louisiana
10 Hospital Association, the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Association of Health
11 Plans, and the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Cable and Telecommunications
12 Association.

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)]

Simon

HCR No. 96

Requests the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to study means by which to expand access by Louisianians to telehealth services and to report its findings to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill.

1. Added the following as organizations which the Dept. of Health and Hospitals shall engage in developing the requested study:
 - (a) The HomeCare Association of La.
 - (b) The La. Hospital Association.
 - (c) The La. Association of Health Plans.

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Added the La. Cable and Telecommunications Association as an organization which the Dept. of Health and Hospitals shall engage in developing the requested study.
2. Added organizations to which a copy of the Resolution is to be transmitted.