

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 132

BY SENATOR MCMATH

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to update the Medicaid outpatient laboratory fee schedule to cover all CPT codes related to respiratory viral panels.

WHEREAS, hospitals and healthcare providers throughout Louisiana are impacted by the Louisiana Department of Health's decision to not update their laboratory fee schedule to cover all CPT codes related to respiratory viral panels; and

WHEREAS, healthcare providers that participate in Louisiana Medicaid currently cannot be reimbursed for respiratory viral panels for certain infectious viral diseases; and

WHEREAS, the utilization of respiratory panels is a means of detecting potential respiratory infections which might complicate a patient's diagnosis and treatment options; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health has recognized the need for the Medicaid program of this state to cover and pay for laboratory testing for respiratory viral infections, particularly when the testing utilizes high-throughput technology; and

WHEREAS, when ordered by a Louisiana hospital or healthcare provider, these respiratory viral panels provide a useful and effective means of identifying, quickly treating, and limiting the spread of serious respiratory infections.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to update the Medicaid outpatient fee schedule to cover all CPT codes related to respiratory viral panels to ensure that Louisiana hospitals and healthcare providers can bill appropriately for testing using respiratory viral panels.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and to the chief medical director of Louisiana Medicaid.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE