

2021 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 97

BY SENATOR JACKSON

INSURERS. Requests the Department of Insurance to create a task force to study the causes of infertility in women and mandating insurance coverage of fertility treatments for women.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Insurance to form a task force to study, jointly with
3 the Louisiana Department of Health, the causes of infertility in women and the
4 desirability and feasibility of mandating insurance coverage for fertility treatments
5 for women.

6 WHEREAS, infertility affects people in a wide variety of ways and can have
7 significant detrimental effects on an individual's quality of life; and

8 WHEREAS, depending on the underlying cause, infertility can be treated by different
9 health care providers using a range of medical options; and

10 WHEREAS, cost prohibitive infertility treatments, coupled with the lack of universal
11 insurance coverage mandates, may contribute to health care inequity, particularly along
12 racial and socioeconomic lines; and

13 WHEREAS, Louisiana law currently prohibits a health insurance plan from
14 excluding coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of a correctable medical condition
15 otherwise covered under the plan solely because the condition results in infertility, but does
16 not require coverage for infertility treatments.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
18 does hereby urge and request the Department of Insurance to form a task force to study,

1 jointly with the Louisiana Department of Health, the causes of infertility in women and the
2 desirability and feasibility of mandating insurance coverage for fertility treatments for
3 women.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be comprised of
5 representatives from any relevant and interested parties including but not limited to the
6 following members:

7 (1) The commissioner of insurance or his designee.

8 (2) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.

9 (3) Representatives from the health insurance industry, appointed by the
10 commissioner of insurance.

11 (4) Two physicians specializing in infertility, appointed by the secretary of the
12 Louisiana Department of Health.

13 (5) Two physicians specializing in obstetrics and gynecology, appointed by the
14 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall specifically consider
16 hypothyroidism as it relates to infertility in women and insurance coverage for conditions
17 related to hypothyroidism.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall survey laws in other states
19 relative to the coverage of fertility treatments for women in order to identify best practices.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may engage and solicit input,
21 recommendations, and advice from all interested parties and stakeholders.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all departments, boards, agencies, officers, and
23 institutions of the state shall cooperate with the task force in providing information to assist
24 the task force in carrying out its mission.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is assigned to the Louisiana
26 Department of Insurance, with staff support to be provided from existing personnel within
27 the department.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commissioner of insurance shall issue the
29 first invitation for the initial meeting of the task force no later than September 1, 2021, and
30 at the first meeting the task force shall select a chairperson.

