State of Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals
Bureau of Health Services Financing

December 30, 2013

The Honorable David Heitmeier, Chairman
Senate Health and Welfare Committee
Louisiana State Senate
P.O. Box 94183, Capitol Station
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9183

The Honorable Scott M. Simon, Chairman
House Health and Welfare Committee
Louisiana House of Representatives
P.O. Box 4486, Capitol Station
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4486

Re: DHH response to Act 311 of the 2013 Legislative Session

Dear Honorable Chairs:

The Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) has reviewed Act 311 from the 2013
Regular Legislative Session and we are submitting the attached report to comply with the
provisions of the Act.

Louisiana Medicaid is dedicated to providing comprehensive and coordinated care for
newborns enrolled in a Bayou Health Plan. The focus of Act 311 – the monitoring and
assurance of continuity of care for newborns enrolled in Medicaid Managed Care – is in
keeping with the deliverables and layers of oversight that DHH has outlined in its
contracts with the Managed Care Organizations that provide delivery of services to
Bayou Health enrollees.

As requested, DHH has prepared a report addressing rehospitalization rates within the
first six months of life for infants born at a gestational age at or below 37 weeks. The
report utilizes data from DHH's Vital Records for establishing gestational age and
Medicaid claims data/ MCO encounter data from the Bayou Health Plans for identifying
the primary diagnoses that triggered rehospitalization.

As always, thank you for your continued commitment to Louisiana residents and your leadership on these critical issues. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

J. Ruth Kennedy
Medicaid Director

JRK/pdl

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Health and Welfare Committee
The Honorable Members of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee
David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library