

**Bobby Jindal**  
GOVERNOR



**Bruce D. Greenstein**  
SECRETARY

**State of Louisiana**  
Department of Health and Hospitals  
Office of the Secretary

May 30, 2011

The Honorable Joel T. Chaisson, II, President  
Louisiana State Senate  
P.O. Box 94183, Capitol Station  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9183

The Honorable Jim Tucker, Speaker  
Louisiana State House of Representatives  
P.O. Box 94062, Capitol Station  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9062

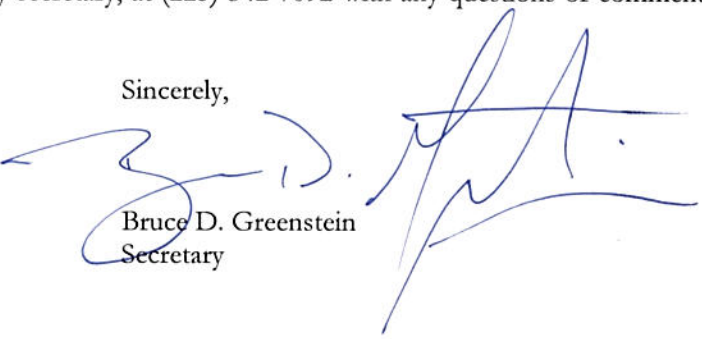
The Honorable Jim Fannin, Chairman  
Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget  
P.O. Box 44486, Capitol Station  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4486

Dear President Chaisson, Speaker Tucker, and Chairman Fannin:

In response to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 116 (SCR 116) of the 2009 Regular Session, the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) submits the enclosed report. The resolution requires that savings generated from cost effective practices in the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) program be maintained in the NOW program to sustain current waiver slots or apply to new slots for those on the waiting list. The resolution further requires DHH to report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget the savings achieved and the number of waiver slots for people with developmental disabilities offered, filled, and served on a quarterly basis, beginning July 1, 2009. R.S. 24:772 also requires that the report be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.

DHH is available to discuss the enclosed report and recommendations with you at your convenience. Please contact Kathy Kliebert, DHH deputy secretary, at (225) 342-7092 with any questions or comments you may have.

Sincerely,

  
Bruce D. Greenstein  
Secretary

Enclosures

Cc: David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library

**SCR NO. 116 REPORT**  
**July 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011**

In accordance with Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 116 adopted during the Louisiana Regular Legislative Session of 2009, the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) has prepared this report for the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 116 requires that savings generated from cost effective practices in the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) program be maintained in the NOW program to sustain current waiver slots or apply to new slots for those on the waiting list. The resolution also requires DHH to report the savings achieved and the number of waiver slots for people with developmental disabilities offered, filled, and served on a quarterly basis.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES WAIVER

PROJECTED SAVINGS FROM PLAN REDUCTIONS SFY 2009-2010	\$5,978,627
PROJECTED SAVINGS FROM PLAN REDUCTIONS SFY 2010-2011	\$25,561,522
NOW SLOTS OFFERED THROUGH MARCH 31, 2011	1,318
NOW SLOTS FILLED THROUGH MARCH 31, 2011	600
UNDUPLICATED RECIPIENTS SERVED FOR SFY 2010-2011	7,656

NOTES:

1. All estimates are based on data for the period July 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.
2. Projected savings estimate is through June 30, 2011 based on 3rd SFY quarter initial and annual plans of care costs.
3. The 4th quarter SCR116 Report projected a SFY 2009-2010 savings estimate of \$5,978,627 based on data available at that time.
4. This estimate will be adjusted based on additional data as the volume of participants in the Resource Allocation Program increases. Currently, 76% of NOW slots are included in the program.
5. All savings estimates have been adjusted to rates based on August 2010 rate reduction.
6. The phase-in of remaining participants into the Resource Allocation model has been impacted by changes to implementation schedules.
7. Intensified efforts to move individuals with their Resource Allocation Plan level began January 2011. Increased plan savings from this effort to date are reflected in the savings totals given above.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 116

BY SENATORS DONAHUE, ADLEY, ALARIO, AMEDEE, APPEL, CHAISSON, CLAITOR, CROWE, DORSEY, DUPRE, ERDEY, B. GAUTREAUX, N. GAUTREAUX, GRAY EVANS, HEBERT, HEITMEIER, KOSTELKA, LONG, MARIONNEAUX, MARTINY, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, QUINN, SHAW AND SMITH AND REPRESENTATIVES BALDONE, TIMBURNS, CORTEZ, CROMER, HARRISON, HINES, HOFFMANN, HOWARD, KATZ, LABRUZZO, LIGI, NOWLIN, PEARSON, POPE, RICHARD, RICHMOND, SCHRODER, SIMON, TALBOT, TUCKER, WILLIAMS AND WOOTON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To authorize and direct that savings generated from cost effective practices in the NOW program be maintained in the NOW program to sustain current waiver slots or apply to new slots for those on the waiting list and to provide that the Department of Health and Hospitals report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget the savings achieved and the number of waiver slots for people with developmental disabilities offered, filled, and served on a quarterly basis, beginning July 1, 2009.

WHEREAS, approximately 9,200 individuals with developmental disabilities are on a waiting list for home and community based waiver services; and

WHEREAS, the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)/La. Plus assessment process and Resource Allocation Model was approved by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget and will be implemented by the Department of Health and Hospitals to reduce the per person cost of the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW); and

WHEREAS, implementation of the Resource Allocation Model will result in savings estimated to be at least \$16 million in the NOW program; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the assessment process and a new individual planning process have already achieved savings in the NOW program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby authorizes and directs that savings generated from cost effective practices in the NOW program be maintained in the NOW program to sustain current waiver slots or apply to new

**SCR NO. 116**

**ENROLLED**

slots for those on the waiting list.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health and Hospitals report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget the savings achieved and the number of waiver slots for people with developmental disabilities offered, filled, and served on a quarterly basis, beginning July 1, 2009.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES