

Progress Notes- April 19, 2013

Louisiana Chapter- American Academy of Pediatrics

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2013 Louisiana Legislative Session

It was a very busy week at the Capitol this week. Thank you to everyone who reached out to their legislators on the bills of concern.

Advocacy Action Requests for Week 3 of session- Act Now!

There are several key bills that are anticipated to be scheduled for the Health and Welfare committees next week. Please reach out to the legislators on the committees and the full House or Senate to let them know you want them to support or oppose the bills. If your schedule permits, please consider being present at the capitol. Below are the bills of interest along with talking points.

SB 185, Murray- Provides relative to Medicaid and certain managed health care organizations providing health care services to Medicaid beneficiaries (This bill was scheduled for week 2 but was voluntarily deferred until this week. See talking points below)

Senate Health and Welfare Committee:

David Heitmeier (Chair)- HeitmeierD@legis.la.gov

R.L. "Bret" Allain, II- allainb@legis.la.gov

Dan Claitor- claitord@legis.la.gov

Dale M. Erdey- erdeyd@legis.la.gov

Ben Nevers- neversb@legis.la.gov

Fred H. Mills, Jr. (Vice-Chair)- millsf@legis.la.gov

Sherri Smith Buffington- smithbuffington@legis.la.gov

Yvonne Dorsey-Colomb- dorseyy@legis.la.gov

Elbert L. Guillory- guillorye@legis.la.gov

HB 527, Hoffmann- Provides relative to the practice of optometry and the regulation of such profession. (Everyone worked very hard to keep this bill from getting out of the committee but the opposition did the same and were able to move the bill forward. This bill is likely to be heard on the House floor early next week. Please reach out to your

Representative and ask them to vote AGAINST this bill. To find out who your Representative is, go to: <http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/FindMyLegislators.aspx> and enter your address. Talking points are below)

Talking points (Thank you to the Louisiana Ophthalmology Association and the Louisiana State Medical Society for putting this bullet points together):

SUPPORT SB 185 – What does the bill do? SB 185 will reduce administrative burden on Medicaid providers which has been exponentially increased due to the transition into Medicaid managed care. Reducing administrative burden will allow for more consistent care being given to Medicaid recipients. The bill addresses four major issues:

(1) Drug Formulary Reforms. The legislation would require all Bayou Health plans to use the same formulary which is determined by a new P&T Committee. The bill further requires the Bayou Health plans to use a standard single page prior authorization form for drugs. Additionally, the bill requires Bayou Health to use the same step therapy override provisions as commercial health plans have to use.

(2) Provider Credentialing. Under current law, the Bayou Health plans do not have to abide by any time limits as to the length of time which they can take to credential providers. Thus, many providers have waited great lengths of time to be credentialed and placed into the plan systems so that they can properly bill for the services they provide. We believe this credentialing process is too long and cumbersome. Bayou Health plans should have to credential providers in the same manner as commercial health plans which is accomplished by mimicking the credentialing language found in the state Insurance Code. Specifically, the credentialing process has to be completed within 90 days and the plans are required to use the standardized credentialing form promulgated by the Department of Insurance. In addition, health plans have to follow the same law commercial health plans have to follow when providing interim credentialing to physicians who join existing groups who are under contract.

(3) Claims Payments. Currently, each Bayou Health plan can utilize their own methods for remitting claim payments or denials to providers. This legislation would standardize the denial process and require each plan to use the same denial codes that are utilized in the fee for service Medicaid program. In addition, the legislation specifically spells out the information which must be contained in the remittance advice.

(4) Care for newborns. The Department of Health and Hospitals currently requires all Bayou Health plans to reimburse providers for care given within the first 30 days of life of a newborn regardless of whether the provider is enrolled in the particular health plan of the child or not. This requirement, although laudable, has not been reduced to writing and therefore is at the whim of the health plan whether or not the directive is followed. This legislation puts that requirement in writing so that providers who provide this critical care can have some sort of authority to rely upon when defending against denied claims.

Why is the legislation needed? Providers should treat patients, not spend time doing excessive paperwork. Since the inception of Bayou Health, physicians and other providers have faced an exponential increase in administrative overhead. This increased overhead deprives the provider from spending their valued time treating patients.

OPPOSE HB 527- What does the bill do? HB 527 gives optometrists open-ended authority to perform almost any surgical procedure. It would authorize optometrists to perform procedures using multiple methods and instruments including scalpels, lasers, needles, ultrasound, ionizing radiation and by burning and freezing tissue. HB 527 would also allow optometrists to inject any drug, except in Schedules I and II.

HB 527 gives optometrists open ended authority to perform almost any surgical procedure

- HB 527 is an optometric blank check to practice medicine. This standard is far different than four years of medical school, a hospital residency, and at least three years of an ophthalmology residency program.
- Surgery involves not just performing the procedures, but deciding who needs to have a procedure done and who does not. It involves patient education and be the ability to identify and manage complications. This cannot be learned in a weekend mini-course.

HB 527 would authorize optometrists to perform procedures using multiple methods and instruments including scalpels, lasers, needles, ultrasound, ionizing radiation and by burning and freezing tissue.

- This provision would allow optometrists to perform eyelid surgeries, surgeries involving needles and injections, glaucoma and cataract procedures, and dozens of other surgical procedures not specifically prohibited.
- The prohibition against performing surgeries on non-suspected malignancies is fairly meaningless from a surgical perspective, since determining malignancy or non-malignancy requires years of training.

HB 527 would authorize optometrists to use lasers

- Lasers are surgical instruments that cut as deeply and sharply as any scalpel.
- The bill allows optometrists to perform laser surgeries in the anterior segment of the eye, laser glaucoma surgeries, AND some forms of laser vision correction (e.g., LASEK).
- Optometrists do not have the education and training to safely perform laser surgery or to manage immediate complications.

HB 527 would allow optometrists to inject any drug, except in Schedules I and II.

- HB 527 would allow optometrists to administer the injectable form of virtually any therapeutic or diagnostic drug into the vascular system, muscle tissue, different levels of skin tissue, around and behind the eye, into the eyelid and into the eye.
- Injections may cause cardiac events, perforate the globe of the eye, cause allergic reactions, or result in a drug entering the blood stream too quickly if a vein is inadvertently injected.

Optometrists do not have the training to perform these procedures or manage the complications that can arise with these procedures.

- Surgical proficiency is acquired through years of medical education and clinical training. After completion of a four-year medical education program and a one-year hospital internship, an ophthalmology resident then gains critical surgical expertise and judgment in a one-on-one three-year surgical residency program.
- The optometry education model does not provide a focused in-depth surgical training experience for its students.

HB 527 removes Medical Board oversight of ophthalmic surgery.

- Current law correctly stipulates that any person performing ophthalmic surgery MUST be licensed to practice medicine by the state Medical Board. HB 527 takes that authority away from the Medical Board, and puts it in the hands of the state optometry board, giving non-physicians the absolute authority to determine scope of practice, including who can perform “ophthalmic surgery” as defined by current law.

If you believe the LA AAP should take a position on any piece of legislation, please send your comments to ashley.politz@laaap.org.

Week 2 Action Recap (4/15-19/13)

[\[click here\]](#) to download a pdf with bills hyperlinked]

The following bills of interest were voluntarily deferred this week and are likely to be scheduled for next week:

SB192- NURSES. Provides for nurse practitioners and licensure by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

SB 185- HEALTH CARE: Provides relative to Medicaid and certain managed health care organizations providing health care services to Medicaid beneficiaries.

HB251- MEDICAID: Requires DHH to institute Medicaid cost containment measures to the extent allowed by federal regulations

HB284- HEALTH SERVICES: Transfers governance and control of state hospitals from LSU to human services districts and authorities of the state and provides for delivery and financing of health services by such districts and authorities

HB322- CHILDREN/NEWBORNS: Requires birthing facilities to perform pulse oximetric screening for certain heart defects on each newborn in the care of those facilities

HB451- HOSPITALS: Requires hospitals to offer pertussis (whooping cough) vaccinations to parents of newborns

Committee Action Recap:

HB 21 , Burns, H

Provides with respect to reporting of mental health information regarding the purchase of firearms

April 17, 2013 House Reported by substitute

April 18, 2013 House Substitute bill adopted: HB 717

HB 89 , Hoffmann

Provides relative to the use of seclusion and physical restraint to address the behavior of certain students

April 15, 2013 House Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

April 16, 2013 House Scheduled for Floor Debate on 4/17/2013

April 17, 2013 House Amended

April 17, 2013 House Finally passed by vote of 97 to 0

April 18, 2013 Senate Received in the Senate

HB 98 , Thompson

Provides with respect to concealed handgun permits issued by sheriffs

April 17, 2013 House Reported favorably

April 18, 2013 House Engrossed, recommitted to committee on House & Governmental Affairs

HB 141 , Badon

Creates the crime of unlawful sales of firearms

April 17, 2013 House Involuntarily deferred

HB 156 , Schexnayder

Provides relative to boards and commissions

April 17, 2013 House **Reported with amendments**- We worked with the author to remove the combination of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Board with the Deaf Commission as well as to remove the combination of the Birth Outcomes Surveillance Committee with the Perinatal Commission

April 18, 2013 House Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

HB 177 , Leger

Designates the Institute for Public Health and Justice as the primary research entity and advisor to the legislature on matters related to youth in the criminal justice system and youth with behavioral needs

April 15, 2013 House Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

April 16, 2013 House Scheduled for Floor Debate on 4/17/2013

April 17, 2013 House Returned to the calendar subject to call

April 17, 2013 House Called from the calendar

April 17, 2013 House Finally passed by vote of 94 to 0

April 17, 2013 Senate Received in the Senate

April 18, 2013 Senate Referred to committee on Judiciary B

HB 273 , Lorusso

Provides relative to reports, records, and adjudicatory functions of the La. State Board of Medical Examiners

April 15, 2013 House Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

April 16, 2013 House Scheduled for Floor Debate on 4/17/2013

April 17, 2013 House Amended

April 17, 2013 House Finally passed by vote of 98 to 0

April 18, 2013 Senate Received in the Senate

HB 355 , LeBas

Provides relative to access to state prescription monitoring program information

April 15, 2013 House Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

April 15, 2013 House Placed on Consent Calendar

April 16, 2013 House Scheduled for Floor Debate on 4/17/2013

April 17, 2013 House Finally passed by vote of 98 to 0

April 17, 2013 Senate Received in the Senate
April 18, 2013 Senate Referred to committee on Health & Welfare

HB 356 , LeBas

Defines compounded pharmacy-generated product

April 15, 2013 House Substitute bill adopted: HB 674

HB 375 , Hoffmann

Provides for the EarlySteps childhood disability intervention program and authorizes a fee schedule known as cost participation for services of the program

April 15, 2013 House Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

April 16, 2013 House Scheduled for Floor Debate on 4/17/2013

April 17, 2013 House Returned to the calendar subject to call

April 17, 2013 House Notice given to call from calendar

HB 527 , Hoffmann

Provides relative to the practice of optometry and the regulation of such profession

Oppose

April 17, 2013 House **Reported favorably out of committee**- The final vote was 12-7 for the this bill to pass out of committee. There were many cards and testimony in opposition to this bill. Thank you to everyone who worked hard to keep it from getting out of committee. The bill has now moved to the House Floor where it will probably be heard this week. Continue to reach out to all legislators to voice your opposition.

April 18, 2013 House Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

HB 557 , Willmott

Requires that mandatory reporters receive training on laws of mandatory reporting of child abuse

April 15, 2013 House Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

April 16, 2013 House Scheduled for Floor Debate on 4/17/2013

April 17, 2013 House Amended

April 17, 2013 House Finally passed by vote of 96 to 0

April 18, 2013 Senate Received in the Senate

HB 635 , Williams, P.

Requires local public school boards to adopt policies relative to accommodations for employees to express breast milk
Support

April 15, 2013 House Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

April 15, 2013 House Placed on Consent Calendar

April 16, 2013 House Scheduled for Floor Debate on 4/17/2013

April 17, 2013 House Finally passed by vote of 96 to 0

April 17, 2013 Senate Received in the Senate

April 18, 2013 Senate Referred to committee on Education

SB 35 , Heitmeier

Provides for health action plans by the Department of Health and Hospitals

April 17, 2013 Senate Reported favorably

April 18, 2013 Senate Engrossed, recommitted to committee on Finance

SB 36 , Heitmeier

Prohibit smoking on the grounds of and inside the facilities or buildings utilized by the institutions managed and supervised by certain post secondary education management boards

April 17, 2013 Senate Reported favorably

April 18, 2013 Senate Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

SB 55 , Johns

Provides for Medicaid transparency

Support

April 17, 2013 Senate Reported with amendments
April 18, 2013 Senate Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading

SB 107 , Ward

Provides relative to at-risk youths and development of an integrated case management system

April 16, 2013 Senate Reported favorably
April 17, 2013 Senate Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading
April 18, 2013 Senate Amended
April 18, 2013 Senate Finally passed by vote of 29 to 0

SB 117 , Appel

Provides for the creation of the Outcomes-Based Funding Task Force

April 15, 2013 Senate Reported favorably
April 16, 2013 Senate Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading
April 17, 2013 Senate Returned to the calendar subject to call

Tentative Committee Meetings- Week 3 (4/22-26/13)

Monday, April 22, 2013

House

Appropriations: Monday, April 22, 2013 9:00 AM Committee Room 5

There will be several measures related to how much is spent, accounted for and expenditure allowances in the budget.

Ways and Means: Monday, April 22, 2013 10:00 AM Committee Room 6

HB 304 , Talbot

Increases the state tax levied on cigarettes

HB 417 , Ritchie

Increases the state tax on certain tobacco products and dedicates the monies
Support

HB 537 , Jackson, K.

Levies an additional tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products and authorizes the dedication of such monies
Support

HB 623 , Jackson, K.

Increases the state tax on certain tobacco products
Support

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

House

Appropriations: Tuesday, April 23, 2013 9:00 AM Committee Room 5

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

House

Education: Wednesday, April 24, 2013 9:00 AM Committee Room 1

HB 466 , Havard

Provides relative to the assignment of performance-based letter grades to public schools and school districts

Health & Welfare: Wednesday, April 24, 2013 9:00 AM Committee Room 5

HB 110 , Norton

Requires that La. Medicaid eligibility standards conform to those established by the Affordable Care Act
Support

HB 233 , Smith

Provides that eligibility standards for the La. Medicaid program shall conform to those established by the Affordable Care Act and requires reporting of program outcomes
Support

HB 429 , Hollis

Provides relative to prohibiting mandatory participation in a health care system
Support

HB 449 , Burrell

Provides for a time-limited expansion of Medicaid eligibility standards in La. to conform such standards to those provided in the Affordable Care Act until Dec. 31, 2016
Support

HB 451 , Barrow

Requires hospitals to offer pertussis (whooping cough) vaccinations to parents of newborns
Support

HCR 4 , Norton

Directs the secretary of DHH to expand eligibility standards for the La. Medicaid program to conform to those established in the Affordable Care Act
Support

HCR 8 , Edwards

Amends administrative rules to provide that La. Medicaid eligibility standards conform to those established in the Affordable Care Act
Support

Insurance: Wednesday, April 24, 2013 11:00 AM Committee Room 3

HB 592 , Thibaut

Provides for the adequacy, accessibility, and quality of health care services offered by a health insurance issuer in its health benefit plan networks
Oppose

House Order of the Day

Convening 4/22/2013 2:00:00 PM

REGULAR ORDER OF THE DAY

House Bills on Third Reading and Final Passage

HB 156 , Schexnayder Provides relative to boards and commissions

HB 527 , Hoffmann Provides relative to the practice of optometry and the regulation of such profession
Oppose

NOTICE GIVEN SUBJECT TO CALL

Regular Order

House Bills on Third Reading and Final Passage

HB 375 , Hoffmann Provides for the EarlySteps childhood disability intervention program and authorizes a fee schedule known as cost participation for services of the program

LA Medicaid- List of Attestation Forms Received

As promised, DHH has posted the list of all Designated Physicians Forms (Attestations) RECEIVED BY PRISM AS OF MARCH 18, 2013 AND VALIDATED BY DHH

If your name is listed, your Designated Physician form has been received and is on file with the Molina Medicaid Provider Enrollment. No further action on your part is necessary to receive the enhanced reimbursement for specified primary care services rendered by designated physicians during calendar years 2013 and 2014. Your effective date for the enhanced reimbursement will be established as January 1, 2013.

To see if your name is on the list, go to:

http://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/recent_policy/ACA_PCP_Designated_Physician_Form_Validated_Listing_040813.pdf

If you have not submitted your Designated Physician Form, you can download it at:

http://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/Provider_Enrollment/existingenrollments.htm

You will need to download and complete the Medicaid Primary Care Services Designated Physician form and mail it to: Molina Medicaid Solutions, Provider Enrollment Unit P.O. Box 80159 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-0159

Note on Effective Date: Your effective date for enhanced reimbursement is based on the date your complete and correct Designated Physician form is received by Medicaid's Provider Enrollment vendor. If your complete and correct form is received by May 15, 2013, you will receive enhanced reimbursement for eligible services rendered on or after January 1, 2013. If your complete and correct form is received after May 15, 2013, you will receive enhanced reimbursement for eligible services rendered on or after the date the form is received.

In previous guidance, March 31, 2013 was the deadline for form receipt to receive the enhanced reimbursement for eligible services rendered on or after January 1, 2013. The deadline has been extended 45 days due to the recent changes.

Bayou Health

Informational Bulletins- Updated

[Informational Bulletin # 13-2](#): Prepaid Bayou Health Plan Provider Claims Disputes and Resolution

All bulletins: <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1198/n/311>

Provider Calls

The weekly provider call hosted by DHH takes place every Wednesday at noon. Any provider is welcome to call in, and pre-registration is not required.

The call in number is 1-888-278-0296

Access code is 6556479#

This has been a helpful venue for providers and hospitals to explore solutions to their concerns or specific issues they are experiencing. On the calls, DHH has consistently reminded participants to use the online complaint form (<https://bhsfweb.dhh.louisiana.gov/BayouHealthComplaints>) The form will require the entry of contact information, the nature of the complaint, if you have dealt with the plan on the issue, the history of those dealings, and other information. Participants are strongly encouraged to follow the Provider Issue Escalation and Resolution format outlined in Informational Bulletin 12-27

(http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/BayouHealth/Informational_Bulletins/IB12-27.pdf)

Notice to Providers from Community Health Solutions of La- Utilization Management

Date: April 12, 2013

New Provider Portal Tool for Requesting & Receiving Authorizations

CHS has new technology available online that allows for immediate response on authorization requests based on certain clinical criteria. If the service can be authorized based on information provided through the online Provider Portal, the requesting provider will receive an authorization number without the need for review by a CHS clinical nurse reviewer. Users can register for this Provider Portal at: <http://providerportal.chsamerica.com/User/Registration>. Questions regarding the use of the Provider Portal can be directed to our Provider Services Hotline at 1-855-247-5248.

Number of Inpatient Days Requested for Inpatient Admission

Please note that CHS requires the estimated number of inpatient days be submitted with all requests for precertification for inpatient admissions. The CHS "Inpatient Precertification Request Form" has been updated on our website to request the total number of days requested. CHS will continue to determine the total number of days approved based on whether continued level of care criteria is met and additional days are warranted.

Clinical Submission Deadline

Effective April 15, 2013, CHS will reinforce a clinical submission deadline of 3:00 pm CST for all initial prior authorization and precertification requests, and concurrent review request. Clinical documentation received after the 3:00 pm deadline will be counted as being received on the next business day. Our required response times are as follows:

Initial Requests

- Eighty percent (80%) of provider requests within 2 (two) business days.
- One-hundred percent (100%) of all requests within 14 business days.

Concurrent Review Requests:

- Ninety-five (95%) of provider requests within 1 (one) business day.
- One-hundred percent (100%) of all requests within 2 (two) business days.

Post Service Authorization Requests:

- The turnaround time for authorization requests for services that have already been provided is 30 days.

The above information is referenced in our provider handbook located on our website at <http://www.louisiana.chsamerica.com>

5145 Bluebonnet Blvd, Suite B * Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Main CHS-LA Office: 888-982-4752 * Fax: 1-888-231-5946

AMA webinar helps doctors prepare for Sunshine Act

An AMA webinar April 24 will help physicians get ready for a forthcoming database that will report payments and other "transfers of value" physicians receive from drug and medical device manufacturers to the public. [Register today](#)

Under the Physician Payment Sunshine Act, manufacturers of drugs, devices and biologicals covered by federal health care programs are required to report any payments and transfers of value they make to physicians and teaching hospitals beginning Aug. 1.

In addition, any ownership or investment interests physicians or their family members have in the manufacturers or group purchasing organizations must be disclosed to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Most of the information will be posted in a public online database to be launched by Sept. 30, 2014.

Participants in the AMA webinar, offered at 7 p.m. Eastern time April 24, will learn which financial exchanges and ownership interests must be reported, steps they can take now to prepare for public disclosure of this information, and ways they will be able to challenge false, inaccurate or misleading reports.

Presenters also will discuss which types of information are excluded from reporting, such as certified and accredited continuing medical education activities funded by manufacturers and product samples intended for patient use.

Given the importance of this topic to all physicians, the AMA is offering this webinar free of charge to both AMA members and non-members.

Visit the AMA's Sunshine Act Web page (<http://www.ama-assn.org/go/sunshine>) to learn more about the requirements of the new law, key dates and answers to frequently asked questions.

Upcoming Events

Pediatric Jambalaya X | 4/27/13 | Lafayette, La

Annually the Woman's Foundation, Inc. and Acadiana Pediatric Society jointly sponsor a Spring CME activity. The "Pediatric Jambalaya X" is a mixture of health care topics which will enhance your pediatric practice.

The Acadiana Pediatric Society is a group of pediatricians from the Acadiana region of Louisiana. Their purpose is to network and discuss educational advancement and issues affecting Louisiana's children.

The Woman's Foundation, Inc., is a not-for-profit organization, dedicated to promoting the total well-being of women and their families. The Foundation provides continuing medical educational offerings for Louisiana physicians in the area of diseases and medical conditions affecting women and their families. Based on community and statewide needs, the Foundation strives to secure exceptionally competent professionals, respected in their fields, to present the most up-to-date information to practicing physicians who seek to acquire advanced skills and knowledge in the field of medicine and increase their professional performance, thereby, improving patient care.

Target Audience:

An integrated educational program for pediatricians, pediatric specialists, and family/general practitioners. Content is appropriate for other health care professionals, including registered nurses.

Conference Overview:

This comprehensive course will address periodic fever, bone & joint infections, risks involved with exposure to animals, pneumonia, foodborne illness, pneumococcal disease, new vaccine recommendations, vaccine safety, and lymphadenopathy.

Pre-registration is requested by Friday, April 19, 2013.

To Register:

Submit online registration at: www.womansfoundation.com

(or)

Mail form and payment to:

Woman's Foundation, Inc.

4630 Ambassador Caffery Parkway • Suite 100

Lafayette, LA 70508

For additional information, contact:

Taryn Daigle or Amy Pool

Phone 337-988-1816 • Fax 337-988-5613

or email: taryn@womansfoundation.com or amy@womansfoundation.com

[Download the online brochure](#) for all the details.

Academic Distinguished Series: Safe Children, Safe Classrooms, Safe Schools | 5/7/13 | Baton Rouge, La

Safe Children, Safe Classrooms, Safe Schools: Making Safety a Priority in Early Childhood Environments

Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Registration: 4:00 - 4:30pm

Program: 4:30 - 6:00pm

Holiday Inn Baton Rouge - South

9940 Airline Highway

Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Distinguished Speaker: Sonayia Shepherd, Ph.D.

Keynote Speaker, Safe Havens International

International Safety Expert

A popular and animated keynote speaker at major professional conferences, Sonayia N. Shepherd (Sony), Ph.D. has authored and co-authored sixteen books on school safety and emergency management. With an extensive background, including serving as a full time school safety practitioner in the nation's largest state government school safety center, Sony has worked directly with hundreds of public and private schools across the nation and has provided crisis response and recovery support following many school crisis situations and major disasters around the world, including Hurricane Katrina, Tsunami in Indonesia, Haiti, and outbreaks in Africa and Asia.

Sony has also appeared on Good Morning America, The Today Show, CNN, FOX, and 20/20. Graduating from high school at the age of 16, she has earned her graduate degree in Clinical Psychology and earned her undergraduate degrees

in Political Science and Spanish from Phillips University. She also has a Ph.D. in Public Administration & Emergency Response Policy.

Information on EBRPSS CLUs, Social Worker CEUs, and Child Care Clock Hours available for this event will follow soon.

To register: <https://app.e2ma.net/app2/survey/13962/213017594/7a32efde74/13249162/5341834/40939146/?v=a&v=a>

LA AAP Advocacy Day / 5/16/13 / Baton Rouge, La

The Louisiana Chapter of AAP will host its Second Annual Advocacy Day on Thursday, May 16, 2013. Details follow.

When: May 16, 2013 beginning at 8:30 AM

Where: Louisiana Municipal Association Building
700 north 10th st., First Floor Conference Room #2
Baton Rouge, La 70802

A light breakfast and lunch will be served.

This seminar is designed to introduce participants to the legislative process and the tools necessary to successfully and effectively advocate for the specialty of pediatrics.

Topics Include:

2013 legislative Session Overview
The Legislative Process
Importance of Grassroots Involvement in Healthcare Policy
How to Make a Difference & Be Effective When Lobbying

To register, go to www.advocacy2013.eventbrite.com

Tulane Saturday Pediatric Series / 6/1/13 / New Orleans, La

Tulane Saturday Pediatric Series: Update on Neurologic and Psychiatric Topics in Pediatrics

June 1, 2013

Registration 9:00 am – 10:00 am
Conference 10:00 am - 1:30 pm

Presented by:
Tulane University School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics
and the Center for Continuing Education
Tulane University Health Sciences Center

Location
Ralph's on the Park
900 City Park Avenue
New Orleans, LA

Topics will include:

Concussion Management in the Student Athlete
Suicide Screening in Primary Care
Update on Seizure Management in Pediatrics
LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) Issues for Pediatric Care Provider.

This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.

Registration Fee is \$35

Online registration is open at <http://tulane.edu/cce/>

Pediatric Potpourri on the Bayou | 9/27-29/13 | Lafayette, La

Mark Your Calendar! The Annual Pediatric Potpourri sponsored by the Louisiana AAP Foundation and co-sponsored by Woman's Foundation will be held in Lafayette, LA on Friday, September 27, 2013 through Sunday, September 29, 2013. Watch your inbox and mailbox for more details.