



# PROGRESS NOTES

March 14, 2014

## In this edition:

<b>2014 Legislative Session</b> - Week 1 Action Summary - Committee Schedule for Bills of Interest- Week 2 (as of 3/13/14) - Call to Action– Act Now	Pgs. 2-5
<b>DHH Announces 2014 Regular Session Legislative Package</b>	Pgs. 6-7
<b>UPDATED- Emergency Rule on Provider Steerage</b>	Pgs. 7-9
<b>Bayou Health/ Medicaid</b> - Informational Bulletins - Provider Calls	Pg. 9-10
<b>SUIDA Recipe – Cheddar and Mushroom Breakfast Squares</b>	Pg. 10
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	Pgs. 11-12

### Stay Connected with YOUR Chapter



P.O. Box 64629  
Baton Rouge, LA  
70896



(225) 379-7923



[ashley.politz@laaap.org](mailto:ashley.politz@laaap.org)



[www.laaap.org](http://www.laaap.org)



[@MyLaaap](https://twitter.com/MyLaaap)



[www.facebook.com/LouisianaAAP](http://www.facebook.com/LouisianaAAP)



### UPCOMING EVENTS (See pages 11-12 for details on all events)

Global Immunization Advocacy Hill Day | 3/27/14 | Washington, DC

Pennington Childhood Obesity and Public Health Conference | 4/1/2014 | Baton Rouge, La

LA Child Well-Being Summit | 4/16-17/14 | Baton Rouge, La

PEDIATRIC JAMBALAYA XI | 4/26/14 | Lafayette, La

2014 Red Stick Pediatric Potpourri | 8/22-24/14 | Baton Rouge, La

## 2014 Legislative Session

The 2014 Regular Legislative Session convened at noon on Monday, March 10, 2014. The Louisiana Chapter encourages all members and medical professionals to become engaged during the legislative session. It is important that your legislator hear from you, their constituent, about issues that are affecting your practice or the children you care for.

The Chapter has created a webpage ([www.laaap.org/2014session](http://www.laaap.org/2014session)) with several quick links to assist in finding the information you are looking for. There you will find a link to find your legislators, committee rosters, and bill search tools. Weekly updates from the Session will be posted in the "Advocacy & Legislation" box on the homepage ([www.laaap.org](http://www.laaap.org))

Throughout the session, the Louisiana Chapter will keep you abreast of what is happening with bills we will be watching. You may also receive requests to reach out to your legislator when a bill is of particular interest.

### Week 1 Action Summary

The legislative session began very quickly this week. Outlined below are a few of the highlights of actions taken. To view the full list of actions taken this week on all the bills LA AAP is tracking, click here: <http://laaap.org/images/2014LegislativeSession/Week1Report.pdf>

#### [HB 736](#), James

Provides relative to the Louisiana Commission on HIV, AIDS, and Hepatitis C

- 3/10/2014 Introduced in the House
- 3/10/2014 Referred to committee on Health & Welfare
- 3/12/2014 Reported with amendments
  - Amendment added the LSMS President or his designee
- 3/13/2014 Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading
- 3/13/2014 Scheduled for Floor Debate on 3/19/2014

#### [HB 746](#), Moreno

Prohibits the use of tanning equipment by a minor (Support )

- 3/10/2014 Introduced in the House
- 3/10/2014 Referred to committee on Health & Welfare
- 3/12/2014 Reported with amendments
  - Amendments changed the age of the ban from 17 to 18 years and younger
- 3/13/2014 Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading
- 3/13/2014 Scheduled for Floor Debate on 3/19/2014

#### [HB 796](#), Cromer

Relative to the Louisiana Health Care Commission

- 3/10/2014 Introduced in the House
- 3/10/2014 Referred to committee on Insurance
- 3/12/2014 Reported with amendments
  - Amendments made technical changes
- 3/13/2014 Engrossed, passed to 3rd reading
- 3/13/2014 Scheduled for Floor Debate on 3/19/2014

The House Fiscal Division conducted a FY 14-15 Executive Budget Review of the House Appropriations Committee on Tuesday, March 11, 2014. To view the presentation, go to:

[http://house.louisiana.gov/housefiscal/DOCS\\_APPBudgetMeetings2014/Executive031114.pdf](http://house.louisiana.gov/housefiscal/DOCS_APPBudgetMeetings2014/Executive031114.pdf)

## Committee Schedule for Bills of Interest- Week 2 (as of 3/13/14)

Monday, March 17, 2014

### House

Appropriations

Monday, March 17, 2014 9:00 AM Committee Room 5

*Overview and discussion of appropriations in HB 1 for the following: Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Dept. of Justice, Dept. of Public Service, Dept. of Agriculture & Forestry, Dept. of Insurance*

### Senate

Finance

Monday, March 17, 2014 1:30 PM Room A-B

*Senate Fiscal Staff presentation on Governor's Proposed FY15 Executive Budget; Legislative Auditor presentation relative to Departmental Audit findings.*

Tuesday, March 18, 2014

### House

Appropriations

Tuesday, March 18, 2014 9:00 AM Committee Room 5

*Overview and discussion of appropriations in HB 1 for the following: Office of Lt. Governor, Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Dept. of Economic Development, Louisiana Workforce Commission, Dept. of Transportation & Development, Parish Transportation Fund*

Civil Law & Procedure

Tuesday, March 18, 2014 9:30 AM Committee Room 4

[HB 822](#) , Seabaugh-**OPPOSE**

Provides relative to balanced billing

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

### House

Criminal Justice

Wednesday, March 19, 2014 9:30 AM Committee Room 6

[HB 330](#) , Lopinto

Authorizes the use of electronic means for the delivery of an order for protective custody and transportation to the sheriff

Committee Members: Lopinto, Chair / Moreno, Vice-Chair / Adams / Badon / Brown / Burrell / Guillory / Hazel / Hodges / Honore / Howard / Landry / Mack / Norton / Pylant / Woodruff  
Secretary: Lori Hutson [342-2409]

Education

Wednesday, March 19, 2014 9:00 AM Committee Room 1

[HB 384](#) , Cromer

Provides for limitations and prohibitions on the collection and sharing of student information and the

administration of assessments, surveys, and other instruments that solicit certain student information  
Committee Members: Carter, Chair / Jefferson, Vice-Chair / Bishop / Broadwater / Burns / Carmody /  
Champagne / Edwards / Henry / Hollis / Ivey / Landry / Price / Reynolds / Richard / Shadoin / Smith /  
Thompson / Williams  
Secretary: Jackie Snowden [342-2408]

Health & Welfare  
Wednesday, March 19, 2014 9:00 AM Committee Room 5

[HB 63](#) , Leger

Revises terminology referring to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities

[HB 168](#) , Hoffmann **SUPPORT**

Prohibits outdoor smoking within 25 feet of certain exterior locations of state office buildings

[HB 251](#) , Talbot

Provides for transparency in prices of hospital procedures, treatments, and other health care services

[HB 388](#) , Jackson

Provides for requirements of physicians who perform abortions

[HB 610](#) , Abramson

Provides relative to licensed radiologic technologists

[HB 672](#) , Whitney

Provides for a limited exemption to state licensure requirements for visiting physicians

Committee Members: Simon, Chair / Hoffmann, Vice-Chair / Anders / Barrow / Burford / Cox / Franklin /  
Harris / Havard / Hensgens / Hill / Jackson / LeBas / Morris / Pope / Stokes / Whitney / Williams / Willmott  
Secretary: Mary Osborne [342-2404]

**CALL TO ACTION– ACT NOW!!!**

HB822 will be heard in House Civil Law and Procedure on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Call to Action:

- Contact the members of the House Civil Law and Procedure Committee to express your opposition to HB822. (contact information below)
- Send this to other members of the medical community asking that they contact their Representatives and Senator and those on the committees as well.

Attend the Tuesday hearing to provide testimony—Contact Ashley Politz, 225.379.7923, if you can attend the hearing and provide testimony.

HB822 by Representative Seabaugh

"Balance Billing" occurs when a healthcare provider sends a bill to an insured patient for rendered services when that patient's health plan is not in contract with the provider. The health plan may or may not pay a portion of the bill and the patient receives the "balance" of the bill from the provider.

HB822: specific to emergency medical services, and claims resulting from an emergency medical condition as defined by prudent layperson. Although it is directed at emergency medical services, it could be amended to be expanded.

What does balance billing do?

Prohibits the right of the non contracted provider to seek legal recourse in collecting any outstanding debt.

- Does not technically prohibit the practice of sending the bill for services rendered, but prohibits the health care provider from collecting the debt.
- A health care provider who sends a bill for an emergency service OR for a claim resulting from an emergency medical condition would no longer have a right of action to enforce a judgment for the debt owed by the patient.
- The bill would force non-contracted providers to accept whatever rate the Health Insurance Issuer chooses to pay, and hope that the patient pays the remaining expense.
- The proposed Balance Billing legislation removes the provider's ability to fairly negotiate contracts with a Health Insurance Issuer, essentially allowing for rate setting with no recourse for dispute resolution.
- Health Insurance Issuers would no longer need adequate networks, since they would be able to pay whatever rate they choose to the non contracted providers.
- These restrictions could easily result in reduced access to care, especially in low population areas where there is a higher cost to deliver care and it is difficult to recruit physicians and other health care providers.

#### **Committee Members:**

Abramson, Neil C. (Chairman) | [Abramson@legis.la.gov](mailto:Abramson@legis.la.gov) | (504) 275-8051 | New Orleans

Landry, Nancy (Vice Chair) | [landryn@legis.la.gov](mailto:landryn@legis.la.gov) | (337) 262-2252 | Lafayette

Arnold, Jeffery "Jeff" | [larep102@legis.la.gov](mailto:larep102@legis.la.gov) | (504) 361-6600 | New Orleans

Edwards, John Bel | [edwardsj@legis.la.gov](mailto:edwardsj@legis.la.gov) | (985) 748-2245 | Amie

Gaines, Randal L. | [gainesr@legis.la.gov](mailto:gainesr@legis.la.gov) | (985) 652-1228 | LaPlace

Garofalo, Raymond E. | [garofalor@legis.la.gov](mailto:garofalor@legis.la.gov) | (504) 277-4729 | Chalmette

Henry, Cameron | [henryc@legis.la.gov](mailto:henryc@legis.la.gov) | (504) 838-5433 | Metairie

Huval, Mike | [huvalm@legis.la.gov](mailto:huvalm@legis.la.gov) | (337) 332-3331 | Breaux Bridge

Jefferson, Patrick O. | [jeffersonpo@legis.la.gov](mailto:jeffersonpo@legis.la.gov) | (318) 927-2519 | Homer

Miller, Gregory A. | [millergr@legis.la.gov](mailto:millergr@legis.la.gov) | (985)764-9991 | Norco

Schexnayder, Clay | [schexnayderc@legis.la.gov](mailto:schexnayderc@legis.la.gov) | (225)473-6016 | Gonzales

Shadoin, Robert E. | [shadoinr@legis.la.gov](mailto:shadoinr@legis.la.gov) | (318)251-5039 | Ruston

Williams, Alfred C. | [williamsa@legis.la.gov](mailto:williamsa@legis.la.gov) | (225)382-3243 | Baton Rouge

## DHH Announces 2014 Regular Session Legislative Package

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 | **Contact:** Media & Communications: Phone: 225.342.1532,  
E-mail: [dhhinfo@la.gov](mailto:dhhinfo@la.gov)  
Link to press release: <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/newsroom/detail/2985>

**BATON ROUGE** - The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) today announced its 2014 Regular Session Legislative Package, which includes five bills that promote the health and welfare of pregnant women and their children, strengthen home and community-based services and make technical clarifications to previous legislation.

"These legislative proposals include logical, forward-thinking changes that can be implemented rapidly to improve the health and welfare of Louisiana citizens," said DHH Secretary Kathy Kliebert. "We are grateful to the legislative sponsors and the advocates who worked hard to help shape the content of each proposal. If passed, these bills will make a positive impact on the lives of Louisianians who look to DHH for support and care."

The first bill, **SB 309 by Sen. Sharon Weston Broome**, will ensure that health care providers offer screening for HIV and Syphilis to all pregnant women in their third trimester of pregnancy or during labor and delivery under certain circumstances. Current law, RS 40:1091 - 1092, provides for the screening only during the first trimester. As under current law, pregnant women would be able to decline the screening.

A significant amount of research shows that a second test provides the opportunity for immediate treatment in the mother that reduces the risk of transmission of the disease to her baby, preventing serious and costly future health problems for the child.

"In 2011, Louisiana ranked third in the nation for estimated HIV case rates and 11th in the estimated number of HIV infection cases," said Sen. Broome. "Louisiana leads the nation in the rates of cases of Syphilis. Testing for HIV and sexually transmitted infections are keys to reducing the number of new cases and improving maternal and child health outcomes. SB 309 takes an important step in educating pregnant women on how to take care of themselves and their children with the goal of preventing further infections."

The second bill, **HB 185 by Rep. Kenny Havard**, proposes to amend provisions of the Direct Service Worker (DSW) statutes, RS 37:1031. It will clarify that the medication administration requirements of the direct service worker statute do not apply to individuals in DHH home and community-based programs who self-direct their services, meaning they hire an individual of their choice to provide in-home support rather than going through a specific provider agency to access care. This bill, also called "Bailey's Law" in recognition of the advocacy efforts on behalf of persons with disabilities inspired by 20-year-old Bailey Caroline Durham of East Feliciana Parish, was drafted with support from disability advocates.

"It has been a pleasure working with Jason Durham and other advocates to create Bailey's Law," said Rep. Kenny Havard. "Ensuring people who choose this option for caring for their loved ones with disabilities can continue to do so will strengthen home and community-based settings and services. I look forward to the opportunity to present this bill to the House Health and Welfare Committee and give a voice to such a deserving population."

"As Bailey's dad I want the right to ensure the best care for my daughter and Bailey's Law would allow all families to realize that opportunity," said Dadvocate Jason Durham. "HB 185 is a chance for Bailey to leave a legacy assuring that home and community-based services are specific to each individual needing services."

The third DHH bill, **SB 499 by Sen. David Heitmeier**, proposes to amend certain provisions of the Direct Service Worker statutes, RS 37:1032, clarifying that direct service workers can administer insulin under rules and regulations that will be developed by DHH and the State Board of Nursing, which is not allowed under current rules and statutes. Allowing direct service workers to administer insulin will help recipients of home and community-based services better control their diabetes, reduce unnecessary emergency room visits and



hospitalizations and improve poor health outcomes associated with poor insulin adherence.

"Louisiana ranks 48<sup>th</sup> nationally in diabetes cases. Diabetes is a chronic disease that needs to be managed appropriately, which includes the proper administration of insulin," said Sen. David Heitmeier. "Allowing direct service workers to assist with insulin will reduce reliance on family, friends and hospitals for treatment. This bill empowers direct service workers and those who self-direct by educating them on how to properly address health-related needs while remaining in a community-based setting."

The fourth DHH bill, **SB 498 by Sen. Heitmeier and Senate President John Alario**, proposes to amend the State Personal Assistance statute RS 46:2116.1-46:2116.5 to provide new flexibilities that will allow the program to support different types services when cost effective. The current statute only allows funds to be used on costly in-home care, when a simple modification or adaptive device, like a ramp or lift, may be enough the meet the individual's current need.

"Simple things like building a ramp up to a doorway or grab bars in bathrooms make huge differences in how independently a person with disabilities can function in their home," said Sen. Heitmeier. "SB 498 aims to make daily living without assistance easier when possible. As Louisiana puts more emphasis on home and community-based settings and services, it makes sense to start looking alternative ways to use personal assistance funds that decrease dependence on others and increase quality of life."

"The Advocacy Center is very excited to work with DHH and the legislature on SB 498," said Charles Tubre of the Advocacy Center. "We embrace the conceptual changes the legislation proposes and will continue to advocate for Louisiana residents with developmental disabilities."

The final bill, **HB 68 by Rep. Timothy Burns**, is a technical amendment to clarify language that was passed in Act 683 of 2010, which transferred the administrative appeals function from DHH to the Division of Administrative Law.

## UPDATED– Emergency Rule on Provider Steerage

Link to publication: <http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osr/emr/1403EMR048.pdf>

### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

#### Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing

#### Prohibition of Provider Steering of Medicaid Recipients (LAC 50:I.Chapter 13)

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing adopts LAC 50:I.Chapter 13 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S.36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

This Emergency Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B)(1) et seq., and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Act or until adoption of the final Rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing administers the Medicaid Program which provides health care coverage to eligible recipients through Medicaid contracted managed care entities and/or through Medicaid fee-for-service.

The department promulgated an Emergency Rule which adopted provisions prohibiting Medicaid providers and contracted managed care entities from engaging in provider steering in order to ensure the integrity of Medicaid recipients' freedom of choice in choosing a particular health plan in which to enroll and, when eligible, the freedom of choice in deciding whether or not to receive care through Medicaid fee-for-service (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 39, Number 12). This Emergency Rule also established criteria for the sanctioning of providers and managed care entities who engage in provider steering of Medicaid recipients. The department now proposes to amend the December 1, 2013 Emergency Rule in order to clarify these provisions and to incorporate provisions governing provider appeals.

This action is being taken to avoid federal sanctions from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) by ensuring the integrity of Medicaid recipients' freedom of choice in choosing a health care provider, and to ensure compliance with the federal regulations which apply to contract requirements contained in 42 CFR §438.104.

Effective March 20, 2014, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends the provisions of the December 1, 2013 Emergency Rule governing the prohibition of provider steering of Medicaid recipients.

## **Title 50**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

#### **Part I. Administration**

##### **Subpart 1. General Provisions**

##### **Chapter 13. Prohibition of Provider Steering**

##### **§1301. General Provisions**

###### **A. Definitions**

*Health Plan*: any managed care organization (MCO), prepaid inpatient *health plan* (PIHP), prepaid ambulatory *health plan* (PAHP), or primary care case management (PCCM) entity contracted with the Medicaid Program.

*Provider*: any Medicaid service *provider* contracted with a health plan and/or enrolled in the Medicaid Program.

*Provider Steering*—unsolicited advice or massmarketing directed at Medicaid recipients by health plans, including any of the entity's employees, affiliated providers, agents, or contractors, that is intended to influence or can reasonably be concluded to influence the Medicaid recipient to enroll in, not enroll in, or disenroll from a particular health plan(s).

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

##### **§1303. Provider Sanctions**

A. First Offense. If the department determines that a provider has participated in provider steering, the department will notify the provider in writing and, at its sole discretion, may impose any of the following sanctions as applicable.

1. If a provider has steered a Medicaid recipient to enroll in a particular managed care health plan, payments to the provider for services rendered to the Medicaid recipient for the time period the recipient's care was coordinated by the health plan may be recouped.
2. If a provider has steered a Medicaid recipient to participate in Medicaid fee-for-service, payments to the provider for services rendered to the recipient for the time period the recipient's care was paid for through Medicaid fee-for-service may be recouped.
3. A provider may be assessed a monetary sanction of up to \$1,000 for each recipient steered to join a particular managed care health plan or to participate in Medicaid fee-for-service. The maximum total penalty per incident shall not exceed \$10,000.
4. A provider may be required to submit a letter to the particular Medicaid recipient notifying him/her of the imposed sanction and his/her right to freely choose another participating managed care health plan or, if eligible, participate in Medicaid fee-for-service.

###### **B. Second Offense**

1. If a provider continues to participate in provider steering after having been cited once for provider steering, and receiving one of the above sanctions, that provider may then be subject to disenrollment from the Medicaid program.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

##### **§1305. Provider Appeal Rights**



#### A. Informal Hearing

1. A provider who has received a notice of sanction shall be provided with an informal hearing if the provider makes a written request for an informal hearing within 15 days of the mailing of the notice of sanction. The request for an informal hearing must be made in writing and sent in accordance with the instructions contained in the notice of sanction. The time and place for the informal hearing will be provided in the notice scheduling the informal hearing.
2. Following the informal hearing, the department shall inform the provider, by written notice, of the results of the informal hearing. The provider has the right to request an administrative appeal within 30 days of the date on the notice of the informal hearing results that is mailed to the provider.

#### B. Administrative Appeals

1. The provider may seek an administrative appeal of the department's decision to impose sanctions.
2. The request for an administrative appeal must be filed with the Division of Administrative Law within 30 days of the date the written sanction notice is mailed to the provider.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

#### **§1307. Health Plan Sanctions**

A. If the department determines the Health Plan or its subcontractors has participated in provider steering, the department, at its sole discretion, may impose the following sanctions.

1. The member(s) may be disenrolled from the health plan at the earliest effective date allowed.
2. Up to 100 percent of the monthly capitation payment or care management fee for the month(s) the member(s) was enrolled in the health plan may be recouped.
3. The health plan may be assessed a monetary penalty of up to \$5,000 per member.
4. The health plan may be required to submit a letter to each member notifying he member of their imposed sanction and of their right to choose another health plan.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

Implementation of the provisions of this Rule may be contingent upon the approval of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if it is determined that submission to CMS for review and approval is required.

Interested persons may submit written comments to J. Ruth Kennedy, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030 or by email to [MedicaidPolicy@la.gov](mailto:MedicaidPolicy@la.gov). Ms. Kennedy is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this Emergency Rule. A copy of this Emergency Rule is available for review by interested parties at parish Medicaid offices.

Kathy H. Kliebert  
Secretary  
1403#048

## Bayou Health/ Medicaid

### Informational Bulletins

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

### Provider Calls

The beginning of each call will begin with announcements from the Department and then will allow for time to

address systemic issues with Bayou Health.

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#**

## SUIDA Recipe– Cheddar and Mushroom Breakfast Squares

This hearty, country breakfast entrée is good for breakfast, brunch, or on-the-go. Create your own variations by using other vegetables. Pair with a bowl of fruit or favorite toast and jam for a cheesy kick start to your day.

**Ease: Moderate**  
**Prep time: 20 minutes**  
**Cook time: 1 hour**  
**Yield: 9 servings**

### Ingredients:

2 teaspoons butter	2 cups fat-free or low-fat milk
2 cups sliced white button mushrooms	2 cups egg substitute
1/2 cup sliced green onion, including green tops	1 teaspoon red or green hot pepper sauce
6 slices country style bread, cubed	1/4 teaspoon salt (optional)
2 cups shredded, reduced-fat Cheddar cheese	



### Directions:

- Spray an 8 x 8-inch square glass or ceramic baking dish with cooking spray; set aside.
- In a medium skillet over medium heat, melt butter and add mushrooms. Cook mushrooms about 5 minutes or until softened and brown at edges. Stir in green onion; set aside.
- Place 1/2 of the bread cubes in prepared baking dish. Scatter 1/2 of the mushroom mixture and 1/2 of the cheese over bread cubes. Layer remaining bread cubes and mushroom mixture; set aside.
- In a large bowl, beat milk, egg substitute, pepper sauce and salt, if desired, until well blended. Pour milk mixture over bread cubes and top with the remaining cheese. Make ahead suggestion: cover dish with foil and refrigerate for 8-10 hours before baking.
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Bake, covered for 45 minutes. Remove foil and bake an additional 15 minutes or until top is puffed up and cheese is browned at edges. Let cool for 5 minutes; cut into squares to serve.

For more information and recipes visit [www.southeastdairy.org](http://www.southeastdairy.org)

### LA AAP is on Facebook!

Be sure to visit and like us to keep up with what's going on and share your stories.

[www.facebook.com/LouisianaAAP](http://www.facebook.com/LouisianaAAP)



## Upcoming Events

### **Global Immunization Advocacy Hill Day | 3/27/14 | Washington, DC**

The American Academy of Pediatrics will be hosting a Global Immunization Advocacy Hill Day on March 27, 2014 in Washington, DC.

The program lasts all day on the 27<sup>th</sup> and will include:

- AAP Advocacy Champions Training
- Overview of major global health issues affecting children with an emphasis on immunizations
- Congressional Hill visits

*Kiran A. Patel, MPH, CHES*

Program Manager, Global Child Health

Office of International Affairs | American Academy of Pediatrics

847.434.7113 | [kpatel@aap.org](mailto:kpatel@aap.org)

### **Pennington Childhood Obesity & Public Health Conference | 4/1/14 | Baton Rouge, La**

#### **The Conference**

Young faces need healthy spaces. Join us at Pennington Biomedical Research Center's seventh annual childhood obesity and public health conference to discover how parks, neighborhoods, and schools shape our children's health and learn from key leaders about how to create more happy faces in your community.

#### **Learning Objectives**

The participants in this conference will be able to:

- recognize the different ways that local environments shape our children's health.
- identify resources and successful strategies to create healthy spaces for children throughout Louisiana.

#### **More Details & Registration Coming Soon!**

#### **Pennington Biomedical Research Center**

6400 Perkins Road | Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

225-763-2500 | [www.pbrc.edu](http://www.pbrc.edu)

### **LA Child Well-Being Summit | 4/16-17/14 | Baton Rouge**

The **Louisiana Child Well-Being Summit** will be held on **April 16-17, 2014** at the **Belle of Baton Rouge**. The social, emotional, and physical well-being of our children is crucial to the well-being of our State. In the wake of disasters such as Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Isaac, the economic downturn, and the BP Oil Spill, Louisiana families find themselves at a heightened risk for significant problems, including abuse and

neglect. That abuse and neglect negatively impacts the physical and mental health outcomes of our children, throughout their lifetimes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have designated child maltreatment to be a public health issue. Join national experts to learn more about evidence-based interventions that can positively affect their well-being. On April 16-17, 2014, the child welfare, legal, medical, mental health, and law-making communities will converge in the State Capital to share scientific knowledge, address the need for increased public awareness, and propose changes in policies and practices that can counteract the high level of risk for Louisiana's children in order to socially and economically benefit the State.

### Topics of Interest for Pediatricians

\*Major risk points in child development with a special focus on abuse and neglect.

\*History, research, value and appropriate role of screening for psychosocial problems in primary care. \*Role of the pediatrician in appropriate advocacy, tracking and referral of children and families with emotional problems.

\*Barriers to comprehensive care of children and families with emotional problems with a special focus on training and costs.

**Continuing education units will be applied for.** For more information or to register, please visit: <http://www.louisianachildren.org/events.aspx> If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me via email [florence@louisianachildren.org](mailto:florence@louisianachildren.org) or phone (888) 567-2272.

[Click here for more details](#)

### PEDIATRIC JAMBALAYA XI | 4/26/14 | Lafayette, La

**Saturday, April 26, 2014**

**Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise (LITE)**

**537 Cajundome Boulevard**

**Lafayette, Louisiana**

*More details coming soon...*

### 2014 Red Stick Pediatric Potpourri | 8/22-24/14 | Baton Rouge, La

**Date:** August 22-24, 2014

**Location:** Embassy Suites (4914 Constitution Ave, Baton Rouge)

For all the details: [www.laaap.org/2014potpourri](http://www.laaap.org/2014potpourri)



Know of something going on in your region you think others should know about?  
Is there new research you want to share?  
Are there things you think your colleagues need to know?

**[Submit an article](#)** for the next Progress Notes

