

# Fund and Implement TEFRA

## KNOW THE FACTS

- **Act 421 of 2019 requires the LA Department of Health to begin a program to provide Medicaid to children in the TEFRA population. However, funding was not appropriated for this program.**
- **TEFRA is a Medicaid State Plan Option that would give children with developmental disabilities basic Medicaid coverage, regardless of their parents' income.**
  - ♦ **Currently, children with a developmental disability do not have access to Medicaid unless they have a waiver or their parents meet the Medicaid income requirements.**
- **Approximately 3,800 children\* in Louisiana would qualify for TEFRA; not all are expected to apply.**

## What Can Legislators Do?

Appropriate \$9.1 Million\* in State General Funds for FY21 to implement the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option in Louisiana.

## Why Do This?

Medicaid coverage would help meet the medical needs of children with developmental disabilities, postponing or alleviating the need for more comprehensive waiver services.

Many children with developmental disabilities who would qualify for TEFRA have private insurance, but their families still face financial struggles when it comes to providing the level of care their child needs.

TEFRA would give families access to certain services for their children that private insurance doesn't cover or imposes limitations. It would also help cover the cost of deductibles and co-pays.

Medicaid coverage would provide financial relief to these families at minimal cost to the state since Medicaid would be the secondary payer.

\* Data and budget figures provided by LDH to offer TEFRA to approximately 800 to 1,000 children in FY21.