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John Bel Edwards, Governor  
Marketa Garner Walters, Secretary

January 26, 2017

The Honorable Fred H. Mills, Jr.  
Chairperson, LA Senate Health and Welfare Committee  
P.O. Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Senator Mills:

The Task Force on Youth Aging Out of Foster Care was initially convened pursuant to the 2015 HCR 168 authored by Representative Billiot and HR 171 authored by Representative Bishop. The group subsequently continued work efforts pursuant to the 2016 HCR 94 authored by Representative Billiot. The Task Force is appreciative of and commends the efforts by Representatives Billiot and Bishop to ensure consideration of the needs of this vulnerable population of citizens in Louisiana.

Please accept the attached documents in summation of the findings and recommendations of the Task Force. This report highlights the skills youth need to transition, the challenges facing youth aging out of foster care, the key outcome areas to improve youth success, necessary system service components to support youth success, evaluation of research on the issues, feedback from youth, and recommendations for change in Louisiana.

This is only the beginning of the collaborative work needed to achieve greater awareness of the issues impacting youth aging out of foster care in Louisiana and more effective support from service agencies and other state partners. The Task Force welcomes your feedback regarding this report or any related questions.

Sincerely,

Toni S. Buxton, MSW, LCSW, BACS  
Task Force Co-Chair

Attachments:

2016 HCR 94 Summary Report  
2016 HCR 94 Detailed Report

