



# ELLEVATE

## LOUISIANA

# *2026 Policy Positions*

## **Health & Wellness**

### ***Mental & Behavioral Health***

Ellevate Louisiana supports expanding access to comprehensive mental and behavioral health services across the state, with particular attention to youth mental health, crisis stabilization services, and building behavioral health workforce capacity. We support policies that increase insurance coverage for behavioral health crisis services, expand access to mental health services in schools, and strengthen coordinated systems of care that connect individuals and families to appropriate treatment and support. Louisiana must prioritize early intervention, reduce barriers to care, and ensure that behavioral health services are available where people live, learn, and work.

### ***Long-Term Care Quality & Access***

Ellevate Louisiana supports policies that improve the quality, accountability, and accessibility of long-term care services. We support expanding home- and community-based care options, including obtaining an additional \$3.3 million in state funding for 750 new Community Choice Waiver Slots, which allow seniors to age with dignity in their homes and communities. We also support reforms that improve quality and transparency in nursing facilities, ensure accountability for neglect or abuse, and provide families with meaningful choices between institutional and community-based care options.



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## **Health & Wellness**

### ***Maternal & Child Health***

Ellevate Louisiana supports evidence-based policies that improve maternal and child health outcomes and strengthen care for women and families across the state. This includes expanding access to maternal health services, improving care coordination during pregnancy and postpartum, and ensuring families receive the support needed for healthy births and early childhood development. We also advocate for appropriate oversight, transparency, and medical standards when public funds support pregnancy centers or when clinical services are provided in pregnancy support settings, ensuring women receive accurate information, qualified care, and appropriate privacy protections. Strengthening maternal health systems is essential to reducing maternal mortality, addressing disparities in care, and improving outcomes for mothers and infants across Louisiana.

### ***Child Welfare & Protection***

Ellevate Louisiana supports policies that strengthen protections for vulnerable children and improve the systems responsible for their safety and wellbeing. This includes common-sense measures that prevent minors from accessing unsecured firearms, recognizing that safe storage policies are an important component of preventing accidental injury and youth suicide. We also advocate for more robust funding to strengthen DCFS operations and prevent child abuse, including improved oversight and accountability within child welfare systems. Additionally, we support policies that address emerging threats to children's safety, including online exploitation, harmful digital content, and the misuse of artificial intelligence and technology.



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### ***Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence***

Ellevate Louisiana supports policies that protect survivors of domestic violence, improve access to services following abuse, and ensure justice for survivors charged with crimes related to their abuse. We support stronger legal protections against domestic violence offenses, improved access to forensic examinations, and medical care for survivors. We advocate for maintaining the \$7 million in recurring funding dedicated to services for victims of domestic violence, however an additional \$3 million is necessary to fully support survivors in this state. Louisiana must continue strengthening the systems that protect victims and hold offenders accountable.

### ***Healthcare Price Transparency & Affordability***

Ellevate Louisiana supports comprehensive transparency and accountability across the entire healthcare system to address rising costs. High prices are not driven by a single sector, but by the cumulative impact of pricing practices across prescription drugs, hospitals, insurers, and other market participants. At the same time, high deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums shift significant financial burden onto patients, often making care unaffordable even when coverage exists. Policies that require clear, accessible pricing information, strengthen oversight of cost drivers, and improve disclosure across all parts of the healthcare marketplace will better equip patients, employers, and policymakers to identify inefficiencies and advance meaningful affordability solutions.



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### ***Public Health & Prevention***

Ellevate Louisiana supports evidence-based public health policies that protect and improve the health of individuals, families, and communities across our state. This includes maintaining strong vaccination programs, preserving proven public health measures such as community water fluoridation, reducing tobacco and vaping use, improving environmental health and safety standards, expanding access to preventive care such as screenings and early detection services, and supporting efforts that make healthcare more accessible and affordable. We also support strengthening the social conditions that influence health, including nutrition, housing stability, and community support systems. A healthier population is essential to Louisiana's future, supporting stronger families, a more productive workforce, and long-term economic and community wellbeing.