



# LOUISIANA SENATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1.13.16

CONTACT: SEN. MILLS

PHONE: 337.365.8484/845.4240

## **SEN. MILLS NAMED CHAIRMAN OF SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

### **READY TO TACKLE HEALTH CARE FINANCING & POLICY ISSUES**

District 22 State Senator Fred Mills, Jr. (R-St. Martinville) is taking on new responsibilities in the Louisiana Senate. Sen. Mills, who officially began his second full term in the Senate this month, will serve as chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare. His appointment to the leadership post by Senate President John Alario comes at a time when the state faces significant fiscal challenges, especially as those challenges relate to health care financing and health care policy.

“We have made a lot of changes in the way the state provides health care services to our needy, elderly and children in recent years. But even with those changes, the state’s costs associated with providing those services continue to rise and utilization of the services has increased. We cannot continue down that path,” Sen. Mills said. “It is our duty to find the most cost efficient way to deliver vital health care services to our citizens while making sure that the quality health care our citizens deserve will be available.”

Sen. Mills looks forward to working with the Edwards administration and newly appointed officials in the Department of Health and Hospitals as they move forward with plans to make available health care services provided under the federal Medicaid program to more uninsured Louisiana residents. He also plans to take a closer look how the privatization of certain health care services and programs is impacting not only the state’s fiscal situation, but also the quality of care.

In addition to chairing the Senate Health and Welfare Committee, Sen. Mills will also serve as a member on the Senate Judiciary C Committee, the Senate Local and Municipal Affairs Committee, the Select Committee on Coastal Restoration and Flood Control, and the Select Committee on Women and Children.

Sen. Mills first came to the Senate in 2011 when he won a special election to fill a vacant District 22 seat. He previously served in the House of Representatives.

###