

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 506

BY REPRESENTATIVE ADAMS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

HOUSING: Creates the Louisiana Interagency Council on Homelessness within the office of the governor

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 36:4(B)(37) and Chapter 3-H of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of
3 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 40:600.151, relative to homelessness; to create the
4 Louisiana Interagency Council on Homelessness within the office of the governor;
5 to provide relative to the membership, governance, and powers and duties of the
6 council; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 36:4(B)(37) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §4. Structure of executive branch of state government

10 * * *

11 B.

12 * * *

13 (37) Louisiana Interagency Council on Homelessness

14 * * *

15 Section 2. Chapter 3-H of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
16 comprised of R.S. 40:600.151, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

1 CHAPTER 3-H. LOUISIANA INTERAGENCY2 COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS3 §600.151. Louisiana Interagency Council on Homelessness

4 A. There is hereby created, within the office of the governor, the Louisiana
5 Interagency Council on Homelessness, referred to in this Chapter as the "council",
6 for the purpose of developing a statewide plan to end homelessness in Louisiana.

7 B. The term "homelessness" for the purpose of this Chapter shall have the
8 same meaning as provided in the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal
9 Home Ownership Act of 2012 (25 U.S.C. 415).

10 C.(1) The duties and responsibilities of the council shall include but are not
11 limited to the following:

12 (a) To advise the governor, legislature, and local governments as appropriate
13 on the causes of homelessness in Louisiana.

14 (b) To identify and analyze the particular challenges and barriers that cause
15 people in Louisiana to become at risk of homelessness, to experience homelessness,
16 and to be unable to return to housing.

17 (c) To assess factors that contribute to episodes and rates of homelessness
18 at the individual, community, and state levels.

19 (d) To propose actions and policies to address the challenges, barriers, and
20 factors that contribute to homelessness.

21 (2) The council shall submit an annual written report to the governor and the
22 legislature regarding the statewide plan to end homelessness, which shall address the
23 issues set forth in this Subsection.

24 D.(1) The council shall consist of no more than twenty-five members. The
25 membership of the council shall be reflective of all geographic regions of the state
26 and shall be comprised of the following members:

27 (a) The commissioner of administration or his designee.

28 (b) The executive director of the Louisiana Housing Corporation or his
29 designee.

1 (c) The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services or his
2 designee.

3 (d) The secretary of the Department of Education or his designee.

4 (e) The secretary of the Department of Corrections or his designee.

5 (f) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.

6 (g) One representative from each of the seven continuums of care located in
7 Louisiana appointed by the governing boards of the continuums of care.

8 (h) The executive director of the Louisiana Services Network Data Coalition
9 or his designee.

10 (i) The executive director of the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic
11 Violence or his designee.

12 (j)(i) The chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Health and
13 Welfare shall appoint six members. Three members shall be appointed by the senate
14 chairman and three members shall be appointed by the house chairman. The
15 members shall be appointed from a list of seven nominations submitted jointly by the
16 governing boards of the seven continuums of care located in Louisiana.

17 (ii) Each person appointed pursuant to this Subparagraph shall have at least
18 five years of academic or professional expertise in housing or services for people
19 experiencing homelessness with a focus in one or more of the following areas:

20 (aa) Street outreach.

21 (bb) Diversion, rapid resolution, or homeless prevention services.

22 (cc) Emergency shelter.

23 (dd) Transitional housing.

24 (ee) Rapid re-housing.

25 (ff) Permanent supportive housing.

26 (gg) Behavioral health or substance abuse disorders.

27 (hh) LGBTQ+ homelessness.

28 (ii) Racial or ethnic disparities in homelessness.

1 (jj) Veterans homelessness.

2 (kk) Youth homelessness.

3 (ll) Chronic homelessness.

4 (mm) Domestic violence.

5 (k) The executive director of the Louisiana Housing Corporation shall
6 appoint at least two members with lived experience of homelessness. The members
7 shall be appointed from a list of nominations submitted jointly by the governing
8 boards of the seven continuums of care located in Louisiana. Each member
9 appointed pursuant to this Subparagraph shall represent as many of the following
10 subpopulations as possible:

11 (i) Youth aged twenty-four or under.

12 (ii) Veterans.

13 (iii) People experiencing or who experienced chronic homelessness.

14 (iv) People who are LGBTQ+.

15 (v) Survivors of domestic violence.

16 (2) Appointed members shall serve two-year terms. Members are eligible
17 for reappointment. Any designee shall serve at the pleasure of the designating
18 authority.

19 (3) Members appointed pursuant to Subparagraphs (C)(1)(j) and (k) shall
20 receive a per diem for attendance at council meetings. The per diem shall be paid
21 by the Louisiana Housing Corporation.

22 (4) The council shall elect a chairman and officers from its membership.

23 (5) The council shall meet at regularly scheduled intervals and at the call of
24 the chairman.

25 E. The Louisiana Housing Corporation shall provide support for the council,
26 including staff, facilities, and remote accessibility tools.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 506 Original

2023 Regular Session

Adams

Abstract: Creates the La. Interagency Council on Homelessness within the office of the governor.

Proposed law creates the La. Interagency Council on Homelessness within the office of the governor for the purpose of developing a statewide plan to end homelessness in La.

Proposed law provides that the duties and responsibilities of the council include:

- (1) To advise the governor, legislature, and local governments as appropriate on the causes of homelessness in La.
- (2) To identify and analyze the particular challenges and barriers that cause people in La. to become at risk of homelessness, to experience homelessness, and to be unable to return to housing.
- (3) To propose actions and policies to address the challenges, barriers, and factors that contribute to homelessness.

Proposed law requires the council to submit a report regarding the statewide plan to end homelessness.

Proposed law provides that the council shall consist of no more than 25 members. Requires that the membership be reflective of all geographic regions of the state. Provides the council shall be comprised as follows:

- (1) The commissioner of administration or his designee.
- (2) The executive director of the La. Housing Corp. or his designee.
- (3) The secretary of the Dept. of Children and Family Services or his designee.
- (4) The secretary of the Dept. of Education or his designee.
- (5) The secretary of the Dept. of Corrections or his designee.
- (6) The secretary of the Dept. of Health and Hospitals or his designee.
- (7) One representative from each of the seven continuums of care located in La. appointed by the governing boards of the continuums of care.
- (8) The executive director of the La. Services Network Data Coalition or his designee.
- (9) The executive director of the La. Coalition Against Domestic Violence or his designee.
- (10) Six members appointed by the chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Health and Welfare from a list of seven nominations submitted jointly by the governing boards of the seven continuums of care located in La. Each chairman

shall appoint three members. Requires members to have five years experience in housing or services for homeless persons.

- (11) At least two members appointed by the executive director of the La. Housing Corp. who have lived with experience of homelessness. Members shall be appointed from a list of nominations submitted jointly by the seven continuums of care located in La. Provides further with respect to qualifications of members.

Proposed law provides that appointed members serve two-year terms and designees serve at the pleasure of the designating authority. Provides that members are eligible for reappointment. Additionally provides that members appointed pursuant to (10) and (11) above shall receive a per diem for attendance at council meeting which shall be paid by the La. Housing Corp.

(Adds R.S. 36:4(B)(37) and R.S. 40:600.151)