

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1220

BY REPRESENTATIVE LACOMBE

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS: Provides relative to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1263(B)(1) through (7), (C)(1)(a) and (2)(b), and (D)(1),  
3 1266, and 1270(A)(introductory paragraph) and (9) and to enact R.S. 37:1263(C)(3)  
4 and (D)(4) and (5), relative to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners; to  
5 provide for membership of the board; to provide for the duties of the board; to  
6 provide for qualifications of the members of the board; to establish a procedure for  
7 filling vacancies of the board; to provide for the president of the board; to provide  
8 for executive staff of the board; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 37:1263(B)(1) through (7), (C)(1)(a) and (2)(b), and (D)(1), 1266,  
11 and 1270(A)(introductory paragraph) and (9) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
12 37:1263(C)(3) and (D)(4) and (5) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §1263. Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners; membership; qualifications;  
14 appointment; removal; terms

15 \* \* \*

16 B. The board shall consist of ten voting members, all appointed by the  
17 governor and subject to Senate confirmation as follows:

18 (1) Two members who are physicians from a list of names submitted by the  
19 Louisiana State Medical Society. One of the members so appointed shall practice  
20 in a parish or municipality with a population of less than twenty thousand people.



1 (b) The consumer member shall be a full voting member of the board with  
2 all rights and privileges conferred on board members, except that the consumer  
3 member shall not participate in the grading of individual examinations. The  
4 consumer member shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.

5 (3) No member shall serve on the board if he is also a member of the  
6 governing body of a nominating organization provided for in Subsection B of this  
7 Section.

8 D.(1) The governor shall appoint the members of the board in accordance  
9 with ~~other~~ the provisions of this Section and the state constitution. The governor  
10 shall ensure that his appointments demonstrate race, gender, ethnic, and geographical  
11 diversity and shall consider an allocation of medical specialties that broaden the  
12 expertise of the physician members of the board.

13 \* \* \*

14 (4) The governor shall request a list of nominees from the nominating  
15 organization when he intends to fill a vacancy on the board. The nominating  
16 organization shall respond to the governor's request within thirty days and provide  
17 a list of nominees within ninety days of the request. If the nominating organization  
18 fails to meet either deadline provided for in this Paragraph, the governor shall  
19 appoint a physician of his choosing.

20 (5) The governor may select the president of the board from the members of  
21 the board in accordance with R.S. 42:4(B)(1). If the governor does not select a  
22 president, the members of board shall select a president by majority vote.

23 \* \* \*

24 §1266. Meetings of board; domicile

25 A. The board shall hold at least ~~one~~ five regular ~~meeting~~ meetings each year  
26 and special meetings as are necessary. A special meeting of the board may be called  
27 by the president ~~,~~ or at the written request of a majority of the board members, at any  
28 place time when a majority of the board, or its president, deems it expedient.



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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)]

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HB 1220 Original

2026 Regular Session

LaCombe

**Abstract:** Provides relative the La. St. Board of Medical Examiners (board).

Present law provides that the board shall have 10 voting members who are all appointed by the governor and subject to Senate confirmation.

Proposed law requires that all members of the board, except the consumer member, be physicians.

Present law provides that two members of the board shall be appointed by the governor from a list of names provided by the La. Medical Association in this state.

Proposed law modifies present law by removing the La. Medical Association as the nominating authority.

Proposed law provides that two members of the board shall be appointed by the governor from a list of names provided by Xavier Ochsner College.

Present law provides that a physician member of the board shall, at the time of appointment, be a resident of this state for six months.

Proposed law modifies present law changing the resident requirement from six months to five years.

Present law provides for one consumer members of the board.

Proposed law provides that the consumer member shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.

Proposed law provides that no member shall serve on the board if he is also a member of the governing body of a nominating organization provided by present law.

Proposed law requires the governor to ensure that his appointments to the board demonstrate diversity.

Proposed law provides that the governor shall provide a nominating organization notice of his intent to fill a vacancy on the board. Proposed law further provide that the nominating organization must respond to the notice within 30 days and provide a list of nominees within 90 days, if the nominating agency fails to meet either deadline, the governor shall appoint a physician of his choosing.

Present law provides that the board shall hold at least one regular meeting each year.

Proposed law requires the board to hold at least five meetings each year.

Proposed law provides that the governor may select the president of the board from the members of the board, but if he does not select a president, the board shall select a president.

Proposed law requires the board to hire an executive director of the board that has administrative oversight of board and its subdivisions. Proposed law further provides that

the executive director shall participate in discussion related to investigations and discipline of licensees.

Present law provides that the board shall hire a director of investigations who is a licensed physician in the this state and actively practices medicine.

Proposed law clarifies present law that the director of investigations must actively practice in this state.

(Amends R.S. 37:1263(B)(1)-(7), (C)(1)(a) and (2)(b), and (D)(1), 1266, and 1270(A)(intro. para.) and (9); Adds R.S. 37:1263(C)(3) and (D)(4) and (5))