
DIGEST

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Moreno

HB No. 1052

Abstract: Creates the Domestic Violence Prevention Commission and provides for the duties, powers, membership, and meetings of the commission.

Proposed law creates the Domestic Violence Prevention Commission within Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and provides for the duties of the commission, including the following:

- (1) Assist local and state leaders in developing and coordinating domestic violence programs.
- (2) Conduct a continuing comprehensive review of all existing public and private domestic violence programs to identify gaps in prevention and intervention services and to increase coordination among public and private programs to strengthen prevention and intervention services.
- (3) Make recommendations with respect to domestic violence prevention and intervention.
- (4) Develop a state needs assessment and a comprehensive and integrated service delivery approach that meets the needs of all domestic violence victims.
- (5) Establish a method to transition domestic violence service providers toward evidence-based national best practices focusing on outreach and prevention.
- (6) Develop a plan that ensures state laws on domestic violence are properly implemented and provides training to law enforcement and the judiciary.
- (7) Develop a framework to collect and integrate data and measure program outcomes.

Proposed law provides that the commission shall be composed of the following persons:

- (1) The executive director of the La. Sheriffs' Association or his designee.
- (2) The executive director of the La. Coalition Against Domestic Violence or his designee.
- (3) The executive director of the La. District Attorneys Association or his designee.
- (4) The executive director of the New Orleans Family Justice Center or his designee.

- (5) The chair of the La. Legislative Women's Caucus or her designee.
- (6) The chairman of the House Committee on the Administration of Criminal Justice or his designee.
- (7) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary B or his designee.
- (8) One district court judge with experience in criminal law matters, selected by the president of the La. District Court Judges Association.
- (9) One district court judge with experience in family law matters, selected by the president of the La. District Court Judges Association.
- (10) The president of the La. Clerks of Court Association or his designee.
- (11) One representative of the Dept. of Justice, office of the attorney general or his designee.
- (12) The executive director of the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice or his designee.
- (13) The secretary of the Dept. of Children and Family Services or his designee.

- (14) The secretary of the Dept. of Health and Hospitals or his designee.
- (15) One representative of the La. Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers or his designee.
- (16) One representative of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives or his designee.
- (17) One attorney licensed to practice law in La. who has at least five years experience in representing victims of domestic violence who seek protective orders.
- (18) The executive director of a shelter-based or direct service program provider for victims of domestic violence.

Proposed law provides that commission members shall serve for a term concurrent with the governor.

Proposed law authorizes each member of the commission to appoint a proxy subject to the limitation that an individual shall not serve as proxy for more than one voting member of the commission.

Proposed law requires the commission to hold public meetings quarterly except as otherwise provided by vote of the commission or by order of the chairman.

Proposed law provides that a simple majority of the commission membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and further provides that legislation may only be recommended by the commission upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the commission members present.

Proposed law authorizes the commission to establish subcommittees within the commission and appoint members to those subcommittees, including persons outside of the commission membership, as it deems necessary and appropriate to accomplish its goals.

Proposed law requires DCFS to provide the commission such clerical, administrative, and technical assistance and support as may be necessary to enable the commission to accomplish its goals.

(Adds R.S. 46:2145-2147)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill.

1. Clarified that the focus of the commission includes domestic violence intervention services.

2. Added to the duties of the commission.
3. Changed the membership of the commission.
4. Deleted the requirement that the proxy for a voting member have the same qualifications, or be a member of the same entity, as the voting member for whom he is serving.

5. Authorized the commission to establish subcommittees within the commission and appoint members to those subcommittees, including persons outside of the commission membership, as it deems necessary and appropriate to accomplish its goals.
6. Made technical changes.