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## DIGEST

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HB 397 Original

2018 Regular Session

Moreno

**Abstract:** Creates and provides relative to the membership and duties of the La. Sexual Assault Oversight Commission.

Present law provides for the creation of La. Sexual Assault Task Force within the office of the attorney general, provides that the task force shall be comprised of 25 members, and provides that the task force shall examine issues related to forensic examinations of sexual assault victims and investigation of sexual assault cases. Present law further required the task force to report its findings and recommendations to the governor, the president of the Senate, and the speaker of the House of Representatives no later than Dec. 31, 2012.

Proposed law amends present law to effectively repeal the La. Sexual Assault Task Force and its duties, and to create the La. Sexual Assault Oversight Commission "commission", within the office of the attorney general, to develop recommendations for a standardized sexual assault collection kit and protocols for forensic medical examinations of victims of sexually-oriented criminal offenses to be used statewide.

In addition, proposed law requires the commission to continuously review its standards and protocols and make subsequent recommendations for changes to the standardized kit and protocols to ensure that the sexual assault collection kit and forensic medical examination protocols are up-to-date with respect to technological advancements and best practices.

Proposed law provides that the commission's recommendations, and any updates to the recommendations, shall be implemented through the adoption of rules by the office of the attorney general in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

Proposed law provides for the following with respect to the commission:

- (1) The commission shall be comprised of 14 members who serve at the pleasure of the member's appointing authority and without compensation, except that travel, per diem, and other expenses may be paid by the member's employer or appointing authority.
- (2) The attorney general, or his designee, shall serve as chairman, and the office of the attorney general shall provide staff and administrative services needed by the commission to carry out its duties.
- (3) The commission shall meet at least once every three months and additional meetings may be

held upon the call of the chairman.

(Amends R.S. 15:555 and 556; Adds R.S. 36:706(D))