

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 445

BY REPRESENTATIVE STOKES

HEALTH: Provides relative to the Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:3444(A) through (C) and 3445(D), relative to the Louisiana  
3 Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners; to  
4 change the name of the Louisiana Association of Rehabilitation Professionals; to  
5 provide for the adoption of a code of ethics; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 37:3444(A) through (C) and 3445(D) are hereby amended and  
8 reenacted to read as follows:

9 §3444. Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors  
10 Board of Examiners

11 A. There is hereby created in the Louisiana Department of Health the  
12 Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of  
13 Examiners, hereafter referred to as the "board", consisting of five members, who  
14 shall be residents of the state of Louisiana. The members shall be appointed by the  
15 governor from a list of qualified candidates supplied by the ~~Louisiana International~~  
16 Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Professionals-Louisiana, as specified in  
17 this Section within sixty days after July 14, 1988 to serve the following terms: one  
18 member for a term of two years, two members for terms of three years, and two  
19 members for terms of four years. Thereafter, each term shall be for four years. Each  
20 appointment by the governor shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation.

1           B. The membership of the board shall consist of three licensed professional  
2 vocational rehabilitation counselors and two individuals from the public at large.  
3 The original professional membership of the board shall be qualified to be licensed  
4 under this Chapter, except that the initial professional members shall be persons who  
5 have rendered rehabilitation counseling for at least three years. Within thirty days  
6 after July 14, 1988, the executive committee of the ~~Louisiana Association for~~  
7 International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals ~~Professionals-Louisiana~~  
8 shall submit to the governor a list of qualified candidates for the board. The board  
9 shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as this Chapter prescribes and  
10 confers upon it. No member of the board shall be individually liable for any act or  
11 omission resulting in damage or injury arising out of the exercise of his judgment in  
12 the formation and implementation of policy while acting as a member of the board,  
13 provided he was acting in good faith and within the scope of his official functions  
14 and duties, unless the damage or injury was caused by his willful or wanton  
15 misconduct.

16           C. No board member shall serve more than two full consecutive terms.  
17 Subsequent appointments to the board shall be made in the manner of the original  
18 appointments, including the submission of a list of qualified candidates by the  
19 executive committee of the ~~Louisiana Association for~~ International Association of  
20 Rehabilitation Professionals ~~Professionals-Louisiana~~. Any board member may be  
21 removed by the governor or majority vote of the board, after notice and hearing, for  
22 incompetence, neglect of duty, malfeasance in office, or moral turpitude. Any  
23 vacancy occurring in board membership, other than by expiration of term, shall be  
24 filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by the governor within thirty days  
25 from a list of qualified candidates supplied by the ~~Louisiana Association for~~  
26 International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals ~~Professionals-Louisiana~~.

\* \* \*

1 §3445. Board meetings; procedures; powers and duties

2 \* \* \*

3 D. The board shall adopt such rules, regulations, and examination procedures  
4 as it may deem necessary to effect the provisions in this Chapter. The board shall  
5 adopt the ~~Code of Ethics of the National Association for Rehabilitation Professionals~~  
6 ~~in the Private Sector~~; Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification Code  
7 of Professional Ethics including any revisions or additions deemed appropriate or  
8 necessary by the board.

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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 445 Original

2018 Regular Session

Stokes

**Abstract:** Changes the name of the Louisiana Association of Rehabilitation Professionals and provides for the adoption of a code of ethics.

Present law creates the La. Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners within La. Dept. of Health and provides that the members of the board are appointed by the governor from a list of candidates supplied by the La. Association of Rehabilitation Professionals.

Proposed law retains present law but changes the name of the La. Association of Rehabilitation Professionals to the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals-Louisiana.

Present law provides for meetings of the board as well as policies and procedures for its operation.

Present law requires that the board adopt rules, regulations and examination procedures as necessary to carry out the functions described in present law, including the adoption of the Code of Ethics of the National Association for Rehabilitation Professionals in the Private Sector. Proposed law retains present law except for a change to the code of ethics that the board is required to adopt. Proposed law requires the board to adopt the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification Code of Professional Ethics.

(Amends R.S. 37:3444(A)-(C) and 3445(D))