New law (R.S. 15:827.4) creates the DPS&C Medical Advisory Council composed of medical directors from each state prison facility and the department medical director.

New law provides that the council shall provide recommendations to DPS&C on the following:

1. Hiring and retention.
2. Departmental policies.
3. Post-mortem review.
4. A health electronic records system.
5. Other reasonably related responsibilities.

New law requires the council to elect a chair, vice chair, and secretary and hold quarterly meetings.

New law provides that the initial council members shall serve until Aug. 14, 2025. All subsequent members shall serve three-year terms beginning on Aug. 15th of each successive term.

New law provides that the secretary shall have authority to contract with consultants to assist the council and the medical director.

New law requires the council to submit a quarterly report to the state health officer within the La. Dept. of Health.

Existing law (R.S. 15:831) provides for the medical care of inmates. Provides that the DPS&C secretary shall establish standards for health, medical, and dental services for each institution.

New law provides that the Medical Advisory Council shall provide recommendations to the DPS&C secretary.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 15:831(A); Adds R.S. 15:827.4)