

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 498 (SB 70)

2024 Regular Session

Mizell

New law authorizes any parish to establish a local overdose fatality review panel to provide for cooperation among relevant agencies in order to develop an understanding of causes and incidences of overdoses within the parish and to make recommendations regarding policy changes to prevent drug overdoses.

New law provides for required membership for the overdose fatality review panel if a parish decides to establish a panel.

New law provides that a member who declines, in writing, to participate shall not be counted toward the total membership of the panel nor toward calculating a quorum.

New law authorizes two or more parishes to jointly establish a multiparish overdose fatality review panel and to execute a memorandum of understanding between the parishes regarding membership, staffing, and operations.

New law requires each review panel to submit notice of formation to the secretary of the La. Dept. of Health and requires the department to maintain a registry of all active overdose fatality review panels in the state.

New law provides that meetings of the panel are exempt from the Open Meetings Law.

New law authorizes the review panel to access certain information.

New law provides for confidentiality of certain information accessed by the panel.

New law requires each local overdose fatality review panel to report annually to the appropriate human services district no later than Nov. 1st of each year.

New law further requires the human services district to compile information received from review panels in its jurisdiction and submit the compiled report to the La. Dept. of Health no later than Dec. 31st of each year.

New law requires the La. Dept. of Health to aggregate the data and recommendations received from the human services districts and report annually to the governor and legislature no later than March 15th of each year.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 40:2025.1-2025.6 and R.S. 44:4(64))