

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 316

BY REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS: Provides for the Drug Policy Board

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 49:219.1, 219.2(B)(1)(a)(introductory paragraph) and (xi) and
3 (c)(i), (iii), and (viii) and (2), 219.3(A), and 219.4 and to enact R.S.
4 49:219.2(B)(1)(a)(xiv) and (xv), relative to the Drug Policy Board; to provide for the
5 policy and purpose of the board; to provide for the membership of the board; to
6 update and modernize language; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 49:219.1, 219.2(B)(1)(a)(introductory paragraph) and (xi) and (c)(i),
9 (iii), and (viii) and (2), 219.3(A), and 219.4 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
10 49:219.2(B)(1)(a)(xiv) and (xv) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §219.1. Policy and purpose

12 A. ~~It is the policy of the state to undertake every responsible effort, explore~~
13 ~~every opportunity, invite every useful contribution, and expend every available~~
14 ~~resource, to eliminate the abuse of drugs and alcohol and the damage to people and~~
15 ~~institutions that results from such abuse.~~ It is the policy of the state to take every
16 responsible action, explore all opportunities, invite meaningful contributions, and
17 utilize all available resources to eliminate substance and alcohol misuse along with
18 the resulting harm to individuals and institutions.

19 B. In view of the policy of the state, it is the purpose of this Part to establish
20 a state agency organizationally positioned and structurally empowered to elicit,

1 motivate, advocate for, and coordinate the best efforts and ideas of all organizations,
2 agencies, entities, and individuals who volunteer or can be conscripted to make a
3 contribution toward the goal of eradicating ~~drug and alcohol abuse and its poisonous~~
4 ~~fruit.~~ substance and alcohol misuse and its harmful consequences.

5 §219.2. Drug Policy Board; establishment; membership; selection; terms;
6 compensation; organization; domicile; procedure

7 * * *

8 B.(1) The board shall be composed of ~~twenty-three~~ twenty-five members.

9 (a) ~~Thirteen~~ Fifteen of the members shall be as follows:

10 * * *

11 (xi) The executive ~~director~~ director, or his designee, of the ~~Safe and Drug-~~
12 ~~Free Schools and Communities Program or his designee.~~ office of drug policy within
13 the office of the governor.

14 * * *

15 (xiv) A representative from the Board of Regents specializing in collegiate
16 recovery education and behavioral health services.

17 (xv) An individual who has been in recovery for at least five years and is
18 actively engaged in substance use prevention and peer support efforts.

19 * * *

20 (c) The remaining eight members shall be appointed by the governor subject
21 to the confirmation of the Senate as follows:

22 (i) A representative of a private ~~organization involved in substance abuse~~
23 ~~prevention.~~ or nonprofit organization located within this state providing substance
24 use education, treatment, and prevention.

25 * * *

26 (iii) ~~A representative of a federal agency with responsibilities in alcohol and~~
27 ~~drug abuse education, treatment, or prevention.~~ The director of the Louisiana
28 Supreme Court Drug and Specialty Court Office or his designee.

29 * * *

1 (viii) A physician representing the field of substance ~~abuse~~ misuse treatment
2 or substance ~~abuse~~ misuse prevention.

3 (2) The governor shall appoint persons who represent local and state
4 education agencies; ~~drug~~ substance and alcohol ~~abuse~~ misuse treatment or
5 rehabilitation facilities or programs; local, state, and federal law enforcement
6 agencies; and local, state, and federal judiciaries, and legal counsel to serve ~~on the~~
7 ~~task force~~ in support of the drug policy board.

8 * * *

9 §219.3. Powers, duties, and functions; staffing; funding

10 A. The board shall:

11 (1) Identify, examine, select or develop, recommend or implement, drug
12 control policies and strategies to more effectively combat illegal ~~drugs and~~ drug,
13 substance, and alcohol ~~abuse.~~ misuse.

14 (2) Stress a coordinated approach emphasizing application, or needed
15 revisions, of enforcement capabilities targeting ~~drug use,~~ illegal drug misuse, sale,
16 and supply.

17 (3) Identify, examine, select or develop, recommend or implement, demand
18 reduction measures such as education, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, peer
19 support, harm reduction, and public awareness.

20 (4) Receive reports of the allocations and expenditures of all federal ~~anti-~~
21 ~~drug abuse~~ substance misuse funds earmarked for education, treatment,
22 rehabilitation, prevention, and law enforcement.

23 (5) Evaluate how ~~anti-drug monies both state and federal are utilized in~~
24 ~~implementing anti-drug programs~~ state and federal funds are utilized in
25 implementing substance use prevention and related programs at the state and local
26 agencies.

27 (6) Evaluate changes in the methods ~~or~~ and priorities of the allocation of
28 funds to state and local agencies.

1 research, aid, services, and ~~assistance as may be requested~~, all support without
 2 imposing any cost or charge ~~of any nature~~ to the office. However, such ~~required~~
 3 ~~assistance by agencies, boards, commissions, and departments~~ support shall be
 4 subject to the funding constraints of the ~~said~~ respective entity. The ~~facilities of the~~
 5 state library and Louisiana State University shall ~~be made~~ make facilities available
 6 for use by the board. ~~It shall be the duty of the~~ The attorney general ~~to give~~
 7 ~~assistance to~~ shall assist the board and ~~to render his opinion in writing~~ provide
 8 written opinions on any subject requested by the legislative fiscal officer.

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)]

HB 316 Original

2025 Regular Session

Butler

Abstract: Modifies the membership of the Drug Policy Board and modernizes language.

Present law states that the Drug Policy Board (board) is composed of 23 members.

Proposed law increases the membership of the board to 25 members.

Proposed law removes the executive director of the Safe and Drug-Free School and Communities Program or his designee and a representative of a federal agency with responsibilities in alcohol and drug abuse education, treatment, or prevention from the board.

Proposed law adds all of the following members to the board:

- (1) A representative from the Board of Regents.
- (2) An individual who has been in recovery for at least five years and is actively engaged in substance use prevention and peer support efforts.
- (3) The executive director of the office of drug policy within the office of the governor or his designee.
- (4) The director of the Louisiana Supreme Court Drug and Specialty Court Office or his designee.

Present law provides that the board shall submit an interim report to the governor regarding findings, activities, and recommendations by July 1, 1991, and submit quarterly reports thereafter.

Proposed law modifies present law by requiring the board to submit an annual report regarding findings, activities, and recommendations on July 1st each year and submit quarterly reports if deemed necessary by the board or the governor.

Proposed law modernizes and updates language in present law.

(Amends R.S. 49:219.1, 219.2(B)(1)(a)(intro. para.) and (xi) and (c)(i), (iii), and (viii) and (2), 219.3(A), and 219.4; Adds R.S. 49:219.2(B)(1)(a)(xiv) and (xv))