

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

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

13 §219.1. Policy and purpose

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

B. In view of the policy of the state, it is the purpose of this Part to establish a state agency organizationally positioned and structurally empowered to elicit, motivate, advocate for, and coordinate the best efforts and ideas of all organizations, agencies, entities, and individuals who volunteer or can be conscripted to make a contribution toward the goal of eradicating ~~drug and alcohol abuse and its poisonous fruit.~~ substance and alcohol misuse and its harmful consequences.

7 §219.2. Drug Policy Board; establishment; membership; selection; terms;
8 compensation; organization; domicile; procedure

9 * * *

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

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

12 * * *

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

16 * * *

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

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

21 * * *

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

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

27 * * *

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

* * *

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

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

* * *

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

A. The board shall:

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

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

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

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

(5) Evaluate how ~~anti-drug monies both state and federal are utilized in implementing anti-drug programs~~ state and federal funds are utilized in

1 implementing substance use prevention and related programs at ~~the~~ state and local
2 agencies.

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

5 (7) Identify and evaluate the effectiveness of state and local public ~~awareness~~
6 ~~and drug prevention programs~~ awareness, prevention, and harm reduction programs
7 addressing substance use in both the public and private sectors in order to develop
8 a series of recommendations for improving the effectiveness of such programs.

9 (8) Evaluate specific ~~problem areas relating~~ challenges related to the
10 enforcement of ~~drug laws and make recommendations in order to improve the impact~~
11 ~~of those laws through legislative refinement or executive order.~~ substance use laws
12 and make recommendations to enhance effectiveness through legislative updates or
13 executive action.

14 (9) Assess the roles and interaction of federal, state, and local law
15 enforcement agencies and operations in combating ~~drug abuse~~ substance misuse and
16 trafficking, with recommendations for improving the effectiveness of multi-
17 jurisdictional operations throughout ~~the~~ this state.

18 (10) Provide an ~~interim~~ annual report to the governor regarding findings,
19 ~~activities~~ activities, and recommendations by ~~July 1, 1991 and thereafter at least on~~
20 ~~a quarterly basis or more often~~ July first of each year and submit quarterly reports
21 if deemed necessary by the governor or the board.

22 (11) Develop long ~~and/or~~ and short range plans or strategies that prioritize
23 areas of need or otherwise organize the use of resources.

24 (12) Seek assistance or support from any state agency or private sector entity
25 which may be helpful in diminishing or eradicating ~~drug~~ substance and alcohol
26 ~~abuse.~~ misuse.

27 (13) Adopt and promulgate rules ~~as may be~~ necessary to implement
28 provisions of this Part.

29 * * *

§219.4. Assistance and cooperation of other agencies; boards; use of facilities

All of the agencies, boards, commissions, ~~and departments of the state and any of its political subdivisions~~ departments, and political subdivisions shall assist the board in its work ~~and furnish such~~ by providing requested information, reports, research, aid, services, and ~~assistance as may be requested~~, all support without imposing any cost or charge ~~of any nature~~ to the office. However, such ~~required assistance by agencies, boards, commissions, and departments~~ support shall be subject to the funding constraints of the ~~said~~ respective entity. The ~~facilities of the state library and Louisiana State University shall be made~~ make facilities available for use by the board. ~~It shall be the duty of the~~ The attorney general ~~to give assistance to~~ shall assist the board and ~~to render his opinion in writing~~ provide 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 Engrossed

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)(intro. para.) and (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))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.