

Regular Session, 2013

SENATE BILL NO. 57

BY SENATOR DORSEY-COLOMB

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

DISEASE CONTROL. Creates the Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission. (8/1/13)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 36:259(NN) and R.S. 40:2018.3, relative to the creation of the Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission within the Department of Health and Hospitals; to provide for membership and terms; to provide for the functions of the commission; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 36:259(NN) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§259. Transfer of agencies and functions to Department of Health and Hospitals

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**NN. The Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission (R.S. 40:2018.3) is placed within the Department of Health and Hospitals and shall exercise and perform its powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities as provided by or pursuant to law.**

Section 2. R.S. 40:2018.3 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§2018.3. Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission**

**A. There shall be established within the Department of Health and Hospitals a commission designated the "Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission",**

1 composed of eleven members as provided in Subsection B of this Section.

2 B.(1) Eight members shall be appointed by the governor, subject to  
3 Senate confirmation, from a list submitted by each of the following  
4 organizations:

5 (a) A representative from the Sickle Cell Center of Southern Louisiana,  
6 Tulane University School of Medicine.

7 (b) A representative from Children's Hospital, New Orleans.

8 (c) A representative from the Louisiana Primary Care Association.

9 (d) A representative from The Baton Rouge Sickle Cell Anemia  
10 Foundation, Inc.

11 (e) A representative from the Northeast Louisiana Sickle Cell Anemia  
12 Technical Resource Foundation, Inc.

13 (f) A representative from the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America,  
14 Inc., Northwest Louisiana Chapter.

15 (g) A representative from the Sickle Cell Anemia Research Foundation,  
16 Alexandria.

17 (h) A representative from Southwest Louisiana Sickle Cell Anemia, Inc.

18 (2) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his  
19 designee.

20 (3) Two members shall be appointed as follows:

21 (a) One member of the Louisiana Senate appointed by the president of  
22 the Senate.

23 (b) One member of the Louisiana House of Representatives appointed  
24 by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

25 (4) Each appointment by the governor shall serve at his pleasure. The  
26 legislative members shall serve at the pleasure of the presiding officer of the  
27 respective legislative body.

28 (5) The term of an appointee shall be four years. Any vacancy occurring  
29 in board membership shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in

1 the same manner as the original appointment.

2 (6) Members of the commission shall not be entitled to a per diem or any  
3 other compensation for their service but shall be entitled to reimbursement of  
4 any necessary and reasonable expense incurred in the performance of their  
5 duties on the panel, including travel expenses. Each legislative member of the  
6 commission shall receive a per diem and travel expenses equal to the per diem  
7 and travel expenses provided by law for members of the legislature.

8 (7) Meetings of the commission shall be held at the call of the chairman  
9 or on a petition of at least five members of the commission.

10 (8) At the first meeting of the commission, each year after its members  
11 assume their positions, the members shall select one of the commission members  
12 to serve as chairman and one of the commission members to serve as vice  
13 chairman, and each shall serve for a term of one year. The chairman shall  
14 preside at meetings of the commission, and in his absence, the vice chairman  
15 shall preside.

16 (9) The commission shall hold at least four regular meetings each year  
17 at the Department of Health and Hospitals headquarters in Baton Rouge.

18 (10) The appointment of the initial members of the commission shall take  
19 place no later than October 1, 2013, and the commission shall convene its first  
20 meeting no later than November 1, 2013.

21 C. The Department of Health and Hospitals shall provide administrative  
22 assistance to and serve as staff for the commission.

23 D. The functions of the commission shall be to:

24 (1) Ensure the delivery of sickle cell services to affected persons in all  
25 parishes in Louisiana and assist in establishing geographical service delivery  
26 boundaries.

27 (2) Promulgate guidelines for creating a uniformity in the delivery of  
28 services and the management of statewide programs.

29 (3) Submit budget recommendations to the legislature and the governor.

- 1                   **(4) Prepare and publish an annual report on sickle cell that includes:**
- 2                   **(a) An assessment of the programs and activities aimed at sickle cell.**
- 3                   **(b) A description of the level of coordination existing between the state**
- 4                   **and private stakeholders in the management and treatment of sickle cell.**
- 5                   **(c) The development of a detailed action plan for battling sickle cell.**
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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christopher D. Adams.

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#### DIGEST

Proposed law provides for the creation of Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission within the Department of Health and Hospitals.

Proposed law provides the commission shall be composed of eleven members:

- (1) Eight members shall be appointed by the governor, subject to Senate confirmation, from a list submitted by each of the following organizations:
  - (a) A representative with the Sickle Cell Center of Southern Louisiana, Tulane University School of Medicine.
  - (b) A representative from Children's Hospital, New Orleans.
  - (c) A representative from the Louisiana Primary Care Association.
  - (d) A representative from The Baton Rouge Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation, Inc.
  - (e) A representative from the Northeast Louisiana Sickle Cell Anemia Technical Resource Foundation, Inc.
  - (f) A representative from the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc., Northwest Louisiana Chapter.
  - (g) A representative from the Sickle Cell Anemia Research Foundation, Alexandria.
  - (h) A representative from the Southwest Louisiana Sickle Cell Anemia, Inc.
- (2) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.
- (3) Two members shall be appointed as follows:
  - (a) One member of the Louisiana Senate appointed by the president of the Senate.
  - (b) One member of the Louisiana House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

Proposed law provides for the procedures for meetings and the filling of vacancies.

Proposed law provides for the functions of the commission.

Effective August 1, 2013.

(Adds R.S. 36:259(NN) and R.S. 40:2018.3)