
DIGEST

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Moreno

HB No. 1052

Abstract: Creates the Domestic Violence Prevention Commission and provides for the duties, powers, membership, and meetings of the commission.

Proposed law creates the Domestic Violence Prevention Commission within Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and provides for the duties of the commission, including the following:

- (1) Assist local and state leaders in developing and coordinating domestic violence programs.
- (2) Conduct a continuing comprehensive review of all existing public and private domestic violence programs to identify gaps in prevention services and to increase coordination among public and private programs to strengthen prevention services.
- (3) Make recommendations with respect to domestic violence prevention and legal advocacy legislation.

Proposed law provides that the commission shall be comprised of the following persons:

- (1) The superintendent of the La. State Police.
- (2) The executive director of the La. Sheriffs' Association.
- (3) The executive director of the La. Coalition Against Domestic Violence.
- (4) The executive director of the La. District Attorneys Association.
- (5) The executive director of the New Orleans Family and Justice Center.
- (6) The chair of the La. Legislative Women's Caucus.
- (7) The chairman of the House Committee on the Administration of Criminal Justice.
- (8) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary B.
- (9) One person selected by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

- (10) One person selected by the president of the Senate.
- (11) One district court judge with experience in criminal law matters, selected by the president of the La. District Court Judges Association.
- (12) One district court judge with experience in family law matters, selected by the president of the La. District Court Judges Association.
- (13) One attorney licensed to practice law in this state who has at least five years experience in representing victims of domestic violence who seek protective orders.
- (14) One licensed mental health practitioner who has at least five years experience in counseling domestic violence victims.

Proposed law provides that commission members shall serve for a term concurrent with the governor.

Proposed law authorizes each member of the commission to appoint a proxy subject to certain limitations which include:

- (1) An individual appointed to serve as proxy for a voting member shall have the same qualifications, or shall be a member of the same entity, as the voting member for whom he is serving.
- (2) An individual shall not serve as proxy for more than one voting member of the commission.

Proposed law requires the commission to hold public meetings quarterly except as otherwise provided by vote of the commission or by order of the chairman.

Proposed law provides that a simple majority of the commission membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and further provides that legislation may only be recommended by the commission upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the commission members present.

Proposed law requires DCFS to provide the commission such clerical, administrative, and technical assistance and support as may be necessary to enable the commission to accomplish its goals.

(Adds R.S. 46:2145-2147)