

Prior law established and provided for the Legislative Youth Advisory Council (LYAC).

Prior law provided that LYAC shall consist of the 14 youth members appointed by the La. Commission on Civic Education (commission), two appointed from each congressional district and the remaining members from the state at large in a manner which reflects the diversity of the state to the greatest extent practicable pursuant to an application process provided in prior law who shall possess the qualifications provided in prior law.

- (1) Requires that the commission select LYAC members from among youths recommended by any school administrator, teacher, or representative of an approved home study program or a general education development skills program. Provides that if two qualified applicants cannot be found to represent a particular congressional district, in lieu of directly filling any such vacancy, the commission may select a qualified applicant from among youths nominated by a school club or community organization, as provided in prior law, to serve as an at-large member in order to ensure full membership on the council.
- (2) Provides that up to seven youths may serve as members nominated by a school-sponsored club or community organization that has a mission that supports the ideals of character, leadership, and service; encourages mutual respect and instills civic responsibility; builds courage and confidence among young people through community participation; or promotes the principles of representative democracy, in an effort to build stronger communities by increasing civic engagement among youth. Provides that if the number of clubs or organizations eligible for and making a request to participate exceeds seven, the members shall be selected in the same manner and pursuant to the application process, specified in prior law, as provided for the selection of other members by the commission.
- (3) Provides that any such club or organization may submit one name to the commission, along with a letter of recommendation from an adult representative of the club or organization from which the youth is nominated and a letter of recommendation from a school administrator, teacher, or representative of an approved home study program or general education development skills program.

New law provides that LYAC shall consist of 21 youth members appointed by the commission as follows: Two youth members shall be appointed from each congressional district and the remaining members from the state at large in a manner which reflects the diversity of the state to the greatest extent practicable. Youth members shall be selected pursuant to an application process provided in prior law and shall possess the qualifications provided in prior law.

New law provides that the commission shall select members to the council from among youths recommended by any of the following:

- (1) A school administrator, teacher, or representative of an approved home study program or a general education development skills program.
- (2) An adult representative of a school-sponsored club or community organization which has a mission that supports the ideals of character, leadership, and service; encourages mutual respect and instills civic responsibility; builds courage and confidence among young people through community participation; or promotes the principles of representative democracy, in an effort to build stronger communities by increasing civic engagement among youth.

Prior law provided for staffing of the LYAC by the legislative staff of the commission. New law provides for LYAC staffing by legislative staff.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 24:973.1(B)(1) and (F)(6))