

New law creates the Domestic Violence Prevention Commission within 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 and intervention services and to increase coordination among public and private programs to strengthen prevention and intervention services.
- (3) Make recommendations with respect to domestic violence prevention and intervention.
- (4) Develop a state needs assessment and a comprehensive and integrated service delivery approach that meets the needs of all domestic violence victims.
- (5) Establish a method to transition domestic violence service providers toward evidence-based national best practices focusing on outreach and prevention.
- (6) Develop a plan that ensures state laws on domestic violence are properly implemented and provides training to law enforcement and the judiciary.
- (7) Develop a framework to collect and integrate data and measure program outcomes.

New law provides that the commission shall be composed of the following persons:

- (1) The executive director of the La. Sheriffs' Association or his designee.
- (2) The executive director of the La. Coalition Against Domestic Violence or his designee.
- (3) The executive director of the La. District Attorneys Association or his designee.
- (4) The executive director of the New Orleans Family Justice Center or his designee.
- (5) The chair of the La. Legislative Women's Caucus or her designee.
- (6) The chairman of the House Committee on the Administration of Criminal Justice or his designee.
- (7) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary B or his designee.
- (8) One district court judge with experience in criminal law matters, selected by the president of the La. District Court Judges Association.
- (9) One district court judge with experience in family law matters, selected by the president of the La. District Court Judges Association.
- (10) The president of the La. Clerks of Court Association or his designee.
- (11) One representative of the Dept. of Justice, office of the attorney general or his designee.
- (12) The executive director of the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice or his designee.
- (13) The secretary of the DCFS or his designee.
- (14) The secretary of DHH or his designee.

- (15) One representative of the La. Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers or his designee.
- (16) One representative of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives or his designee.
- (17) One attorney licensed to practice law in La. who has at least five years experience in representing victims of domestic violence who seek protective orders.
- (18) The executive director of a shelter-based or direct service program provider for victims of domestic violence.
- (19) The chief justice of the La. Supreme Court or his designee to the commission.
- (20) The executive director of the La. Association of Chiefs of Police or his designee.

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

New law authorizes each member of the commission to appoint a proxy subject to the limitation that an individual shall not serve as proxy for more than one voting member of the commission.

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

New law requires the commission to annually issue a report of its findings and recommendations, including any recommendations for legislation that it deems necessary and appropriate, to the governor, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and the president of the Senate no later than Feb. 1 of each year with the initial report to be issued no later than Feb. 1, 2015.

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

New law authorizes the commission to establish subcommittees within the commission and appoint members to those subcommittees, including persons outside of the commission membership, as it deems necessary and appropriate to accomplish its goals.

New law authorizes legislative members of the commission to receive the same per diem and reimbursement of travel expenses as is provided for legislative committees under the rules of the respective house. Nonlegislative members shall serve without compensation or per diem.

New 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.

Effective Aug. 1, 2014.

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