

Regular Session, 1999

HOUSE BILL NO. 1266

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEBLANC, WINSTON, LONG, BARTON,  
DOERGE, FARVE, FRITH, MICHOT, MURRAY, PINAC, POWELL,  
SCHNEIDER, SCHWEGMANN, TRAVIS, FAUCHEUX, GLOVER,  
AND WALSWORTH AND SENATOR HINES

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 36:4(U) and Chapter 10-A of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 51:1317 through 1319, relative to the Louisiana Retirement Development Commission; to provide for membership; to provide for responsibilities and duties of the commission; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 36:4(U) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§4. Structure of executive branch of state government

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U. The Louisiana Retirement Development Commission, as provided for in R.S. 51:1317 through 1319, shall be placed within the office of the lieutenant governor and shall exercise its powers, duties, and functions as provided by law.

Section 2. Chapter 10-A of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 51:1317 through 1319, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

CHAPTER 10-A. LOUISIANA RETIREMENTDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION§1317. Legislative findings and determinations

A. Because the legislature recognizes the existence of an emerging retirement industry, it finds that the state has a role and responsibility in developing Louisiana as a retirement community state. The legislature also recognizes that retirees spend a disproportionate amount of their disposable income on goods and services, which in turn creates new jobs. In addition, tax dollars generated from retirees' incomes provide a boost to state and local economies. The legislature also finds that major aspects of this emerging retirement industry are related directly to both tourism and economic development and that there should be a concerted effort by the state to focus on or serve the growing retirement market.

B. Because the retirement industry is a potential source of economic growth for Louisiana, the legislature determines it is necessary and essential to create the Louisiana Retirement Development Commission to engage in developing, promoting, and marketing Louisiana as a retirement destination.

§1318. Creation of the Louisiana Retirement Development

Commission; domicile; composition; membership; officers; staff; expenses; terms; quorum

A. The Louisiana Retirement Development Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "commission", is hereby created as an agency of the state in the office of the lieutenant governor. The commission shall be a body politic and corporate entity with the power

to sue and be sued. The commission shall be domiciled in Baton Rouge.

B. The commission shall be composed of the following eleven members who shall be residents of the state:

(1) The governor or his designee.

(2) The lieutenant governor or his designee.

(3) The secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism or his designee.

(4) The secretary of the Department of Economic Development or his designee.

(5) As provided in Subsection C of this Section, one member from each of the following five state tourism marketing regions: Sportsman's Paradise, Crossroads, Cajun Country, Plantation Country, and Greater New Orleans.

(6) The president of the Senate or his designee.

(7) The speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee.

C. The governor shall appoint one member from each of the five state tourism marketing regions. The lieutenant governor shall compile a list of eligible nominees from each region from which the governor shall make each such appointment. Each appointment by the governor shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation.

D. All members shall be knowledgeable, interested, and active in developing, marketing, and promoting Louisiana as a retirement community state.

E. The lieutenant governor or his designee may serve as chairman of the commission or may designate one of its members as chairman.

F. The lieutenant governor shall employ an executive director and other staff, as may be required, and fix and pay their compensation from funds available to the commission.

G. The chairman shall have the ability to name individuals as ex officio members of the commission. Such ex officio members shall be nonvoting members.

H. Members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their services as members of the commission but shall be entitled to their actual expenses for necessary travel and for other expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the commission. Such expenses shall be paid out of funds available to the commission.

I. Each appointed member shall serve a term concurrent with that of the governor making the appointment. A vacancy shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment within sixty days. Any members appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term. Any member of the commission appointed for a definite term may serve after the expiration of his term until his successor has taken office.

J. A quorum to transact business shall be a majority of the voting members of the commission.

§1319. Commission responsibilities and duties

A. The commission shall have the following responsibilities:

(1) Formulate, jointly with the office of the lieutenant governor, a strategic plan, or any modifications thereto, for retirement development.

(2) Monitor and evaluate regional retirement initiative pilot programs to develop guidelines that certify Louisiana communities as "retirement ready and friendly".

(3) Approve a marketing or communication strategy to promote Louisiana as a retirement location or destination.

(4) Research, study, and develop plans and programs designed to assist state government, units of local government, private sector entities, and nonprofit entities in developing Louisiana as a retirement destination.

(5) Hold at least four regular meetings in a calendar year. Special meetings shall be held on the call of the chairman or upon request of a majority of the members.

(6) Report annually to the legislature not later than the sixtieth calendar day prior to each regular session.

B. The commission shall be authorized to do the following:

(1) Establish innovative partnerships within and across public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

(2) Adopt rules and regulations, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business.

(3) Request that the head of any state agency detail any of the personnel of such agency to the commission to assist in carrying out the commission's duties.

(4) Receive, administer, and comply with the conditions and requirements respecting any gift, grant, or donation of any property or money.

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, exercise any and all other powers necessary to accomplish the purposes set forth herein.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_