HLS 18RS-626 ENGROSSED

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 445

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE STOKES

HEALTH: Provides relative to the Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners

AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:3444(A) through (C) and 3445(D), relative to the Louisiana 3 Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners; to 4 change the name of the Louisiana Association of Rehabilitation Professionals; to 5 provide for the adoption of a code of ethics; and to provide for related matters. 6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 7 Section 1. R.S. 37:3444(A) through (C) and 3445(D) are hereby amended and 8 reenacted to read as follows: 9 §3444. Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors 10 **Board of Examiners** 11 A. There is hereby created in the Louisiana Department of Health the 12 Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners, hereafter referred to as the "board", consisting of five members, who 13 14 shall be residents of the state of Louisiana. The members shall be appointed by the 15 governor from a list of qualified candidates supplied by the Louisiana International 16 Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Professionals-Louisiana, as specified in 17 this Section within sixty days after July 14, 1988 to serve the following terms: one 18 member for a term of two years, two members for terms of three years, and two 19 members for terms of four years. Thereafter, each term shall be for four years. Each appointment by the governor shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation. 20

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

B. The membership of the board shall consist of three licensed professional vocational rehabilitation counselors and two individuals from the public at large. The original professional membership of the board shall be qualified to be licensed under this Chapter, except that the initial professional members shall be persons who have rendered rehabilitation counseling for at least three years. Within thirty days after July 14, 1988, the executive committee of the Louisiana Association for International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Professionals-Louisiana shall submit to the governor a list of qualified candidates for the board. The board shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as this Chapter prescribes and confers upon it. No member of the board shall be individually liable for any act or omission resulting in damage or injury arising out of the exercise of his judgment in the formation and implementation of policy while acting as a member of the board, provided he was acting in good faith and within the scope of his official functions and duties, unless the damage or injury was caused by his willful or wanton misconduct.

C. No board member shall serve more than two full consecutive terms. Subsequent appointments to the board shall be made in the manner of the original appointments, including the submission of a list of qualified candidates by the executive committee of the Louisiana Association for International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Professionals-Louisiana. Any board member may be removed by the governor or majority vote of the board, after notice and hearing, for incompetence, neglect of duty, malfeasance in office, or moral turpitude. Any vacancy occurring in board membership, other than by expiration of term, shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by the governor within thirty days from a list of qualified candidates supplied by the Louisiana Association for International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Professionals-Louisiana.

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1 §3445. Board meetings; procedures; powers and duties 2 3 D. The board shall adopt such rules, regulations, and examination procedures as it may deem necessary to effect the provisions in this Chapter. The board shall 4 5 adopt the Code of Ethics of the National Association for Rehabilitation Professionals 6 in the Private Sector, Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification Code 7 of Professional Ethics including any revisions or additions deemed appropriate or 8 necessary by the board. 9

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 445 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Stokes

Abstract: Changes the name of the Louisiana Association of Rehabilitation Professionals and provides for the adoption of a code of ethics.

<u>Present law</u> creates the La. Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners within La. Dept. of Health and provides that the members of the board are appointed by the governor from a list of candidates supplied by the La. Association of Rehabilitation Professionals.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> but changes the name of the La. Association of Rehabilitation Professionals *to* the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals-Louisiana.

<u>Present law</u> provides for meetings of the board as well as policies and procedures for its operation.

<u>Present law</u> requires that the board adopt rules, regulations and examination procedures as necessary to carry out the functions described in <u>present law</u>, including the adoption of the Code of Ethics of the National Association for Rehabilitation Professionals in the Private Sector. <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> except for a change to the code of ethics that the board is required to adopt. <u>Proposed law</u> requires the board to adopt the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification Code of Professional Ethics.

(Amends R.S. 37:3444(A)-(C) and 3445(D))