

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 287 (HB 514)

2025 Regular Session

Willard

Existing law provides for the La. Doula Registry Board (board) within the La. Dept. of Health (LDH). Outlines legislative findings and provides the board's purpose, composition, and duties.

New law deletes legislative findings and generally retains existing law.

Existing law requires the board to review applications for doulas registering to receive health insurance reimbursement in the state of La.; approve or deny such applications; notify applicants of approval or denial of doula registration status; and maintain a statewide registry of doulas approved for health insurance reimbursement.

New law grants the board full authority to review and approve applications for doulas seeking registration to receive health insurance reimbursement; notify applicants of approval or denial of registration status; and maintain a statewide registry of doulas approved for health insurance reimbursement in Louisiana.

Prior law required board membership to include certain members of doula services organizations who represent all specified LDH regions of the state. Further required membership to include a doula with lactation training, a person who has used a doula for at least two births, and representatives from certain organizations that provide education and community support services relative to maternal health.

New law requires the board to consist of nine individuals who serve as doulas from all nine of the geographic regions in the state of La., with two representing an organization providing doula services. Further requires board membership to include one woman with lived experience of birth under doula care appointed by the medical director of the La. Perinatal Quality Collaborative and one representative from Sista Midwife Productions.

New law requires the medical director of the La. Perinatal Quality Collaborative to appoint members of the board.

Existing law requires board members to serve without compensation for a term of up to two years. Further provides the option for reappointment. New law retains existing law but authorizes board members to be reimbursed for travel expenses approved by the secretary of LDH in accordance with regulations of the division of administration.

Existing law requires the board to elect a chairperson. New law retains existing law and requires the chairperson to dismiss from membership any members who are absent from more than three in-person meetings within a calendar year.

Existing law requires LDH to promulgate and adopt rules in accordance with the APA to implement the provisions for the board.

Existing law requires LDH to provide support staff to the board. New law retains existing law but requires LDH staff to be administrative staff who facilitate the process for registration of doulas per promulgated rules and establish guidelines; ensure that all administrative guidelines align with board policies; provide logistical support in processing applications; and issue notifications of approval or denial of doula registration status.

Effective Aug. 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 22:1059.1)