

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1146

BY REPRESENTATIVE WYBLE

EARLY CHILDHOOD: Provides relative to the Advisory Council on Early Childhood Care and Education and the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:407.101(C), (E), (F), and (G), to enact R.S. 17:407.101(I)
3 through (M), and to repeal R.S. 17:407.51, relative to early childhood care and
4 education; to provide relative to the Early Childhood Care and Education
5 Commission; to provide for the membership of the commission; to provide for the
6 duties and authority of the commission; to provide for meetings of the commission;
7 to provide relative to the Advisory Council on Early Childhood Care and Education;
8 to repeal the statutory authority for the advisory council; to transfer certain duties
9 and authority of the advisory council to the commission; to require certain reports
10 by the state Department of Education to be provided to the commission instead of the
11 advisory council; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

12 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

13 Section 1. The Legislature of Louisiana finds that the state's early childhood care and
14 education system has benefitted from both the Advisory Council on Early Childhood Care
15 and Education and the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission and that greater
16 alignment, efficiency, and impact can be achieved by consolidating these entities while
17 preserving their duties, membership, and authority.

18 Section 2. R.S. 17:407.101(C), (E), (F), and (G) are hereby amended and reenacted
19 and R.S. 17:407.101(I) through (M) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

1 §407.101. Early Childhood Care and Education Commission

2 * * *

3 C.(1) The commission is composed of ~~forty-five~~ members as follows:

4 ~~(a) One representative of a municipality that receives Head Start funding,~~
5 ~~appointed by the governor.~~

6 ~~(b)~~ (a) One representative of a Head Start program, appointed by the
7 governor.

8 ~~(c)~~ (b) One representative of a child advocacy or community organization,
9 appointed by the governor.

10 ~~(d)~~ (c) One representative of a disability advocacy organization, appointed
11 by the governor.

12 ~~(e)~~ (d) One representative of the governor's office, appointed by the
13 governor.

14 ~~(f)~~ (e) One business representative, appointed by the speaker of the House of
15 Representatives.

16 ~~(g)~~ (f) One local school superintendent, appointed by the speaker of the
17 House of Representatives.

18 ~~(h)~~ (g) One representative of Type III early learning centers, appointed by the
19 speaker of the House of Representatives.

20 ~~(i)~~ (h) One representative of a child advocacy or community organization,
21 appointed by ~~the speaker of the House of Representatives~~ For Providers, By
22 Providers.

23 ~~(j)~~ (i) One parent of a child in a publicly funded ~~child daycare~~ early learning
24 center, Early Head Start Center, Head Start Center, or stand-alone prekindergarten
25 program, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

26 ~~(k)~~ (j) Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the
27 speaker of the House of Representatives.

28 ~~(l)~~ (k) One business representative, appointed by the president of the Senate.

1 ~~(m)~~ (l) One local school superintendent, appointed by the president of the
2 Senate.

3 ~~(n)~~ (m) One representative of Type III early learning centers, appointed by
4 the president of the Senate.

5 ~~(o)~~ ~~One representative of a child advocacy or community organization,~~
6 ~~appointed by the president of the Senate.~~

7 ~~(p)~~ (n) One parent of a child in a publicly funded ~~child daycare~~ early learning
8 center, Early Head Start Center, Head Start Center, or stand-alone prekindergarten
9 program, appointed by the president of the Senate.

10 ~~(q)~~ (o) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate.

11 ~~(r)~~ (p) Two representatives of high-performing community early childhood
12 care and education networks, appointed by the State Board of Elementary and
13 Secondary Education upon recommendation of the state superintendent of education.

14 ~~(s)~~ (q) One representative of a nonpublic school participating in a publicly
15 funded early childhood care and education program, appointed by the State Board
16 of Elementary and Secondary Education.

17 ~~(t)~~ (r) A member appointed by the American Academy of Pediatrics,
18 Louisiana Chapter.

19 ~~(u)~~ ~~One person with professional expertise in the operations of a family care~~
20 ~~center, appointed by the governor.~~ (s) One representative of a family child care
21 provider that is Child Care Assistance Program-certified with academic approval,
22 appointed by the state superintendent of education.

23 ~~(v)~~ (t) One early care and education researcher from a public postsecondary
24 education institution, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

25 ~~(w)~~ (u) One representative from ~~either~~ a Type I ~~or Type II~~ early learning
26 center, appointed by the president of the Senate.

27 ~~(x)~~ (v) One representative of maternal, infant, and early childhood home
28 visitation programs within the Bureau of Family Health, appointed by the secretary
29 of the Louisiana Department of Health.

1 ~~(y)~~ (w) One representative of the Early Steps program within the Bureau of
2 Family Health, appointed by the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

3 ~~(z)~~ (x) One representative of early childhood programs within the state
4 Department of Education, appointed by the state superintendent of education.

5 ~~(aa)~~ (y) ~~One representative~~ The director of the Louisiana Head Start
6 Collaboration Office, ~~appointed by the state superintendent of education.~~

7 ~~(bb)~~ (z) One representative of the special education programs within the state
8 Department of Education, appointed by the state superintendent of education.

9 ~~(cc)~~ (aa) A staff member of the Board of Regents, appointed by the Board of
10 Regents.

11 ~~(dd)~~ (bb) The secretary of Louisiana Works, or his designee.

12 ~~(ee)~~ (cc) The secretary of Louisiana Economic Development, or his designee.

13 ~~(ff)~~ (dd) The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services,
14 or his designee.

15 ~~(gg)~~ (ee) One professional with expertise in the socioemotional development
16 and well-being of children from birth through age four, appointed by the governor.

17 ~~(hh)~~ (ff) One early intervention researcher from a Louisiana public
18 postsecondary education institution, appointed by the Board of Regents.

19 ~~(ii)~~ (gg) One early childhood education researcher from a Louisiana public
20 postsecondary education institution, appointed by the Board of Regents.

21 ~~(jj)~~ (hh) One member of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
22 Education, appointed by the president of the board.

23 ~~(kk)~~ (ii) One early childhood development and education specialist,
24 appointed by the president of the Center for ~~Development~~ Literacy and Learning.

25 ~~(ll)~~ (jj) One member of the Louisiana Educational Television Authority,
26 appointed by the chairman of the authority.

27 ~~(mm)~~ (kk) One representative of a nongovernmental economic development
28 organization, appointed by the chief executive officer of ~~the Committee of 100 for~~
29 ~~Economic Development, Inc.~~ Leaders for a Better Louisiana.

1 ~~(mm)~~ (ll) One representative of a child advocacy organization, appointed by
2 the ~~chief executive director~~ officer of the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children.

3 ~~(oo)~~ (mm) The president and chief executive officer of the Louisiana
4 Association of Business and Industry, or his designee.

5 ~~(pp)~~ (nn) ~~The executive director~~ One child care provider, appointed by the
6 board of directors of the Child Care Association of Louisiana, ~~or his designee~~.

7 (oo) One representative of a Type III early learning center, selected by the
8 state superintendent of education.

9 (pp) One representative of a Type II early learning center, selected by the
10 state superintendent of education.

11 (qq) One representative of a Head Start program, which shall be operated by
12 a nonlocal education agency and selected by the state superintendent of education
13 from a list of three persons nominated by the Louisiana Head Start Association.

14 (rr) One representative of local education agencies operating publicly funded
15 early childhood programs other than Head Start, selected by the state board.

16 (ss) One representative from a child care resource and referral agency,
17 appointed by the state board.

18 (tt) One professional or faculty member having child development or early
19 childhood education expertise from a Louisiana postsecondary education institution,
20 selected by the commissioner of higher education.

21 (uu) One parent of a child currently enrolled in a publicly funded early
22 learning center or prekindergarten program, selected by the state board.

23 (2) The commission shall include nonvoting ex officio members who may
24 advise and contribute to discussions pertaining to early childhood care and education,
25 including but not limited to the following:

26 (a) The chairmen of the House Committee on Education, Senate Committee
27 on Education, House Committee on Health and Welfare, and Senate Committee on
28 Health and Welfare, or their designees.

1 birth through age four, determine needs and priorities, and develop a plan focused
2 on family access, affordability, and quality.

3 ~~(2)~~ (b) Consider research, local coordination currently established in
4 Louisiana including current high-performing community networks, and related work
5 done in other states to determine best practices for the purpose of informing and
6 fostering the continued development of local governing entities that coordinate
7 across programs and providers in order to meet family needs, drive quality
8 improvement, maximize financial resources, and support children from birth through
9 age four and their families.

10 ~~(3)~~ (c) Determine a sustainable infrastructure to ensure quality programs
11 across providers. Such infrastructure shall include workforce and professional
12 development, monitoring and assessment, coordinated enrollment, and data-informed
13 decisionmaking.

14 ~~(4)~~ (d) Identify opportunities for collaboration and coordination among and
15 inefficiencies across governance structures of programs and agencies responsible for
16 development of children from birth through age four, including state agencies, local
17 community networks, and publicly funded programs.

18 ~~(5)~~ (e) Define a timeframe for achieving the vision and determine
19 benchmarks for the intervening years.

20 ~~(6)~~ (f) Determine the amount of funding needed to achieve affordable access
21 to quality care and education for all children from birth through age four and
22 recommend policies that prioritize the allocation of future funding.

23 ~~(7)~~ (g) Gather and analyze data, laws, and policy in Louisiana and other
24 states where children are in the care of family child care providers and consider and
25 make recommendations relative to the incorporation of such providers into the early
26 childhood care and education network.

27 F: (2) Not later than ninety days following the end of each fiscal year, the
28 commission shall provide a report of its findings and recommendations ~~and the status~~
29 ~~of the implementation of its recommendations~~ to the governor, the members of the

1 legislature, the state superintendent of education, and the State Board of Elementary
2 and Secondary Education. The report shall include without limitation policy
3 recommendations of the commission, the status of the implementation of its
4 recommendations, and findings of the commission concerning system performance
5 and progress toward statewide goals.

6 ~~G.~~ F.(1) The commission shall provide input and guidance to the State
7 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state Department of
8 Education on matters pertaining to the development and implementation of rules,
9 regulations, bulletins, policies, or standards related to all early care and education
10 programs, including early learning centers, enrollment in early learning centers, the
11 Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program, the Child Care and Development
12 Fund Block Grant, the Child Care Assistance Program, Early Head Start, and Head
13 Start.

14 (2) Prior to its submission to the United States Department of Health and
15 Human Services, the state Department of Education shall consult and provide a draft
16 of the state plan for the Child Care and Development Fund and its budget, and any
17 amendments to the state plan including budget revisions, and provide an opportunity
18 for the commission to make recommendations. Recommendations made by the
19 commission shall be reported to the state board.

20 (3) Prior to consideration by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
21 Education of any rule or standard related to early learning centers, enrollment in
22 early learning centers, the Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program, the Child
23 Care and Development Fund Block Grant, or the Child Care Assistance Program, the
24 state Department of Education shall consult with and provide a draft of the proposed
25 rules to the commission and provide an opportunity for the commission to make
26 recommendations. Recommendations made by the commission shall be reported to
27 the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education prior to their adoption. The
28 provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to the adoption of emergency rules.
29 However, the state Department of Education shall notify the commission of any

1 meetings of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education at which
2 emergency rules pertaining to matters described in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection
3 will be considered. Such notification shall be given at the same time that public
4 notice of the meeting is given and shall include a draft of the proposed emergency
5 rule.

6 G.(1) The commission shall meet at least ~~two times per year~~ quarterly, with
7 the meetings to be called by the chair or the state superintendent as needed. At each
8 meeting, the state Department of Education shall provide updates on how the
9 commission's recommendations are being implemented. The commission shall make
10 any further recommendations it deems necessary to advance the vision and goals
11 established pursuant to Subsection E of this Section.

12 (2) Members of the commission may attend and participate in a meeting via
13 electronic means in accordance with R.S. 42:17.2.

14 * * *

15 I. The commission may establish such work groups as the commission
16 deems necessary and appropriate to carry out its duties and responsibilities, including
17 work groups focusing on matters that include but are not limited to an early
18 childhood education funding formula, early childhood education workforce stability,
19 early childhood education regulatory implementation, and an early childhood
20 education statewide vision and framework. Work groups shall meet at least twice
21 per year, and members of work groups may attend and participate in a meeting via
22 electronic means in accordance with R.S. 42:17.2.

23 J. The state Department of Education shall provide quarterly reports to the
24 commission on the implementation and progress, activities, and status of the Early
25 Childhood Care and Education Network.

26 K. The state Department of Education shall provide the commission with
27 reports not less than annually of the following information, provided that data is
28 available, pursuant to a schedule agreed upon by the chair and the state
29 superintendent of education:

1 (1) A description of each publicly funded early care and education program,
2 including the eligibility criteria, the program requirements, average number of hours
3 and days of the program, and the amount of total funding and source of funding for
4 each program. The description shall also include a specific description of the fee
5 structure for the Child Care Assistance Program.

6 (2) The number of children served in each publicly funded early childhood
7 care and education program in Louisiana, broken down by the age of the child and
8 amount of public funding per child per program.

9 (3) The number of early learning centers by each licensing type and at each
10 quality level as determined by the accountability system then in place, and the
11 number of children served at each age in each type at each quality level.

12 (4) Description of the training and support provided to each program and the
13 amount of funding for this by program and source of funds.

14 (5) Description of unmet family demand for early care and education in
15 Louisiana.

16 (6) Description of the goals for the upcoming fiscal year for early care and
17 education in Louisiana, including outcome indicators that will be used to measure
18 progress, and a description of the progress made in achieving the previous year's
19 goals.

20 (7) Description and results of any evaluations of the early care and education
21 programs in the state.

22 (8) Description of the early care and education workforce, including an
23 analysis of the status of the current early care and education workforce, including
24 demographics, certifications and education levels, participation and level on any
25 professional development ladder, and the participation in any teacher tax credits.
26 The description shall also include information about salaries and benefits, and a
27 comparison of these to similarly qualified employees in other but related fields, and
28 an analysis of the workforce capacity necessary to meet the state's early care and
29 education needs.

1 L. Any reports provided by the state Department of Education to the
2 commission and any commission recommendations shall be included in meeting
3 minutes.

4 M.(1) The commission is hereby designated as the State Advisory Council
5 on Early Childhood Education and Care for children from birth to school entry
6 pursuant to Section 642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
7 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)).

8 (2) The state superintendent of education or his designee shall serve as the
9 coordinator of the commission's activities in its capacity as the State Advisory
10 Council pursuant to Section 642B(b)(1)(A)(ii) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
11 9837b(b)(1)(A)(ii)).

12 (3) Nothing in this Subsection shall be construed to limit the authority of the
13 commission further than which is otherwise provided by this Section or to expand
14 the authority of the commission further than which is otherwise authorized by this
15 Section and applicable federal law.

16 Section 3. R.S. 17:407.51 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

17 Section 4. Each action, recommendation, or report in progress on the effective date
18 of this Act pursuant to R.S. 17:407.51 shall continue without interruption, all in accordance
19 with the corresponding provisions of R.S. 17:407.101 as provided in this Act.

20 Section 5. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
21 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
22 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
23 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
24 effective on the day following such approval.

 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 1146 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Wyble

Abstract: Repeals statutory authority for the Advisory Council on Early Childhood Care and Education and transfers some members and the duties and reports of the advisory council to the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission.

Present law (R.S. 17:407.101) establishes and provides for the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission (Commission). Provides for the duties of the Commission. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides for the membership of the Commission. Proposed law retains present law except as provided below:

- (1) One representative of a municipality that receives Head Start funding, appointed by the governor. Proposed law removes this member.
- (2) One representative of a Head Start program, appointed by the governor.
- (3) One representative of a child advocacy or community organization, appointed by the governor.
- (4) One representative of a disability advocacy organization, appointed by the governor.
- (5) One representative of the governor's office, appointed by the governor.
- (6) One business representative, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (7) One local school superintendent, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (8) One representative of Type III early learning centers, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (9) One representative of a child advocacy or community organization, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives. Proposed law instead provides for this member to be appointed by For Providers, By Providers.
- (10) One parent of a child in a publicly funded child daycare center, Early Head Start Center, Head Start Center, or stand-alone prekindergarten program, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives. Proposed law refers to an "early learning" center instead of a "child daycare" center.
- (11) Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (12) One business representative, appointed by the president of the Senate.
- (13) One local school superintendent, appointed by the president of the Senate.

- (14) One representative of Type III early learning centers, appointed by the president of the Senate.
- (15) One representative of a child advocacy or community organization, appointed by the president of the Senate. Proposed law removes this member.
- (16) One parent of a child in a publicly funded child daycare center, Early Head Start Center, Head Start Center, or stand-alone prekindergarten program, appointed by the president of the Senate. Proposed law refers to an "early learning" center instead of a "child daycare" center.
- (17) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate.
- (18) Two representatives of high-performing community early childhood care and education networks, appointed by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) upon recommendation of the state superintendent of education.
- (19) One representative of a nonpublic school participating in a publicly funded early childhood care and education program, appointed by the BESE.
- (20) A member appointed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, La. Chapter.
- (21) One person with professional expertise in the operations of a family care center, appointed by the governor. Proposed law replaces this member with a representative of a family child care provider that is Child Care Assistance Program-certified with academic approval, appointed by the state superintendent of education.
- (22) One early care and education researcher from a public postsecondary education institution, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (23) One representative from either a Type I or Type II early learning center, appointed by the president of the Senate. Proposed law removes the option relative to the type of center and provides for one representative of a Type I early learning center.
- (24) One representative of maternal, infant, and early childhood home visitation programs within the Bureau of Family Health, appointed by the secretary of the La. Department of Health.
- (25) One representative of the Early Steps program within the Bureau of Family Health, appointed by the secretary of the La. Dept. of Health.
- (26) One representative of early childhood programs within the state Dept. of Education (DOE), appointed by the state superintendent of education.
- (27) One representative of the La. Head Start Collaboration Office, appointed by the state superintendent of education. Proposed law replaces this member with the director of the office.
- (28) One representative of the special education programs within DOE, appointed by the state superintendent of education.
- (29) A staff member of the Board of Regents, appointed by the board.
- (30) The secretary of La. Works, or his designee.
- (31) The secretary of La. Economic Development, or his designee.
- (32) The secretary of the Dept. of Children and Family Services, or his designee.

- (33) One professional with expertise in the socioemotional development and well-being of children from birth through age four, appointed by the governor.
- (34) One early intervention researcher from a La. public postsecondary education institution, appointed by the Bd. of Regents.
- (35) One early childhood education researcher from a La. public postsecondary education institution, appointed by the Bd. of Regents.
- (36) One member of BESE, appointed by the BESE president.
- (37) One early childhood development and education specialist, appointed by the president of the Center for Development and Learning. Proposed law refers to this organization instead as the Center for Literacy and Learning.
- (38) One member of the La. Educational Television Authority, appointed by the chairman of the authority.
- (39) One representative of a nongovernmental economic development organization, appointed by the CEO of the Committee of 100 for Economic Development, Inc. Proposed law changes the appointing authority to the CEO of Leaders for a Better La.
- (40) One representative of a child advocacy organization, appointed by the executive director of the La. Policy Institute for Children. Proposed law changes the appointing authority to the CEO of this institute.
- (41) The president and CEO of the La. Association of Business and Industry, or his designee.
- (42) The executive director of the Child Care Association of Louisiana, or his designee. Proposed law replaces this member with a child care provider appointed by the association's board of directors.

Proposed law also adds one representative from a child care resource and referral agency, appointed by BESE, to the commission membership.

Present law (R.S. 17:407.51) provides for the Advisory Council on Early Childhood Care and Education (Advisory Council). Provides for 17 voting members:

- (1) Two representatives of Type III early learning centers, selected by the state superintendent of education.
- (2) One representative of a Type II early learning center, selected by the state superintendent of education.
- (3) One representative of a Type I early learning center, selected by the state superintendent of education.
- (4) Two representatives of Head Start programs, one of which shall be operated by a local education agency and selected by BESE, and one of which shall be operated by a nonlocal education agency and selected by the state superintendent of education from a list of three persons nominated by the La. Head Start Association.
- (5) Two representatives of local education agencies operating publicly funded early childhood programs other than Head Start, selected by BESE.

- (6) Two representatives of La. nonprofit advocacy organizations having a focus on early childhood education, selected by the state superintendent.
- (7) Two representatives of approved nonpublic schools with publicly funded early childhood care and education programs, selected by BESE.
- (8) One professional or faculty member having child development or early childhood education expertise from a La. postsecondary education institution, selected by the commissioner of higher education.
- (9) The president of the La. Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, or his designee.
- (10) One representative of an advocacy or service organization that focuses on serving children with disabilities, selected by the state superintendent of education.
- (11) One representative of a La. business or community organization, selected by BESE.
- (12) One parent of a child currently enrolled in a publicly funded early learning center or prekindergarten program, selected by BESE.

Proposed law repeals present law but provides that the following five of the above members are voting members of the Commission:

- (1) One representative of a Type III early learning center, selected by the state superintendent of education.
- (2) One representative of Type II early learning centers, selected by the state superintendent of education.
- (3) One representative of local education agencies operating publicly funded early childhood programs other than Head Start, selected by BESE.
- (4) One professional or faculty member having child development or early childhood education expertise from a La. postsecondary education institution, selected by the commissioner of higher education.
- (5) One parent of a child currently enrolled in a publicly funded early learning center or prekindergarten program, selected by BESE.

Present law provides for the following 13 nonvoting members of the Advisory Council:

- (1) The chairmen of the House Committee on Education, Senate Committee on Education, House Committee on Health and Welfare, and Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, or their designees.
- (2) The secretary of the Dept. of Children and Family Services, or his designee.
- (3) The state director of the La. State Head Start Collaboration Project.
- (4) A representative of the state agency responsible for programs under Section 619 or Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.).
- (5) The director of the Maternal and Child Health Program at the La. Dept. of Health.
- (6) The director of the Child and Adult Care Food Program at the State Dept. of Education.

- (7) The La. State Fire Marshal, or his designee.
- (8) A representative from the office of sanitarian services at the La. Dept. of Health.
- (9) A representative from La. Works.
- (10) A representative from the La. State Police Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information.

Proposed law repeals present law but provides that the following nine of the above members are nonvoting members of the Commission:

- (1) The chairmen of the House Committee on Education, Senate Committee on Education, House Committee on Health and Welfare, and Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, or their designees.
- (2) The director of the Maternal and Child Health Program at the La. Dept. of Health.
- (3) The director of the Child and Adult Care Food Program at the State Dept. of Education.
- (4) The La. State Fire Marshal, or his designee.
- (5) A representative from the office of sanitarian services at the La. Dept. of Health.
- (6) A representative from the La. State Police Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information.

Present law provides that the Advisory Council shall provide input and guidance to BESE and DOE on matters pertaining to the development and implementation of rules, regulations, bulletins, policies, or standards related to all early care and education programs, including early learning centers, enrollment in early learning centers, the Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program, the Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant, the Child Care Assistance Program, Early Head Start, and Head Start.

Present law provides that prior to its submission to the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, DOE shall consult and provide a draft of the state plan for the Child Care and Development Fund and its budget, and any amendments to the state plan including budget revisions, and provide an opportunity for the Advisory Council to make recommendations. Recommendations made by the Advisory Council shall be reported to the BESE.

Present law provides that prior to consideration by BESE of any rule or standard related to early learning centers, enrollment in early learning centers, the Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program, the Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant, or the Child Care Assistance Program, DOE shall consult with and provide a draft of the proposed rules to the Advisory Council and provide an opportunity for the council to make recommendations. Recommendations made by the commission shall be reported to BESE prior to their adoption. Provides that the provisions of present law do not apply to the adoption of emergency rules. However, requires DOE to notify the commission of any meetings of BESE at which emergency rules pertaining to such matters will be considered. Requires such notification to be given at the same time that public notice of the meeting is given and shall include a draft of the proposed emergency rule.

Proposed law repeals present law and provides that such duties and requirements apply to the Commission instead of the Advisory Council.

Present law requires DOE to provide quarterly and annual reports to the Advisory Council. Specifies the required content of the reports. Proposed law repeals present law and requires

DOE to provide such reports to the Commission instead of the Advisory Council. Provides that any reports provided by DOE to the Commission and any Commission recommendations shall be included in meeting minutes.

Proposed law provides that commission members may attend and participate in meetings via electronic means in accordance with present law (R.S. 42:17.2).

Proposed law authorizes the Commission to establish such work groups as the Commission deems necessary and appropriate to carry out its duties and responsibilities. Provides that the voting members of the Commission shall elect a chair or provide for co-chairs if deemed necessary to provide for effective governance. Provides that the Commission shall meet at least quarterly, with meetings called by the chair or the state superintendent as needed.

Proposed law provides that the commission is designated as the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care for children from birth to school entry for purposes of present federal law.

Proposed law provides that each action, recommendation, or report in progress on the effective date of proposed law shall continue without interruption, all in accordance with the corresponding provisions of proposed law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:407.101(C), (E), (F), and (G); Adds R.S. 17:407.101(I)-(M); Repeals R.S. 17:407.51)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Revise commission membership and remove provision that all Advisory Council members shall serve as Commission members.
2. Add that the Commission is designated as the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care for children from birth to school entry for purposes of present federal law.
3. Provide for the Commission to have work groups instead of subcommittees.
4. Add that Commission members may attend and participate in meetings via electronic means in accordance with present law.
5. Add an effective date.