

New law creates the Louisiana Retirement Development Commission as an agency of the office of the lieutenant governor. The commission will be domiciled in Baton Rouge. It will be composed of the following eleven members who are 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) One member from each of the five state tourism marketing regions. The governor will appoint these members from five lists of nominees, one from each region, compiled by the lieutenant governor. These appointments will be submitted to the Senate for confirmation.
- (6) The president of the Senate or his designee.
- (7) The speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee.

New law requires that all commission members be knowledgeable, interested, and active in developing, marketing, and promoting Louisiana as a retirement community state.

New law requires the lieutenant governor or his designee to either serve as chairman or designate one of the members as chairman. It further requires the lieutenant governor to employ an executive director and other staff as necessary. He shall also fix and pay their compensation from available commission funds.

New law provides that the chairman may name individuals as ex officio members of the commission. Such members shall not have the right to vote.

New law provides that the members will not receive any compensation for their services as members but shall be entitled to their actual expenses for necessary travel and other expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The expenses will be paid from available commission funds. New law further provides that each appointed member will serve a term concurrent with that of the governor making the appointment. A vacancy will be filled within sixty days as provided by new law. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term will be appointed only for the remainder of the term. Any member appointed for a definite term may serve after the expiration of his term until his successor has taken office.

New law provides that a quorum to transact business shall be a majority of the members of the commission.

New law provides that 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 the regular session.

New law provides that the commission is 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 in new law.

Effective August 15, 1999.

(Adds R.S. 36:4(U) and R.S. 51:1317-1319)