

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 177

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHITNEY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

EXCEP PERSON/DEV DISABLE: Provides relative to roles of human services authorities and districts in implementation of the Developmental Disability Law

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 28:451.2(2) and (15)(introductory paragraph), 451.3(A) and (C) through (G), 451.4(B), and 455.2(B), to enact R.S. 28:915(B)(9), and to repeal R.S. 28:451.2(23), relative to implementation of the Developmental Disabilities Law; to provide for responsibilities of human services authorities and districts within the developmental disabilities services system; to provide for functions of advisory committees of human services authorities and districts; to delete outdated references to regional offices and state developmental centers of the office for citizens with developmental disabilities within the Department of Health and Hospitals; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 28:451.2(2) and (15)(introductory paragraph), 451.3(A) and (C) through (G), 451.4(B), and 455.2(B) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 28:915(B)(9) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§451.2. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, the following words, terms, and phrases shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this Section, except when the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

* * *

1 (1) Human services authorities and districts shall maintain advisory
2 committees. These advisory committees shall perform all of the following functions:

3 (a) Provide public input into the ~~regional~~ authority or district planning
4 process and comment on regulations proposed by the office.

5 (b) Receive timely information on the ~~budget of the office~~ budgets of their
6 respective human services authorities and districts, in addition to information on
7 implementation of all services and quality assurance reports by ~~the office~~ those
8 authorities and districts, and advise the ~~regional offices and human services~~
9 authorities and districts.

10 (c) Collaborate with the ~~regional offices and~~ human services authorities and
11 districts to develop outreach plans for each ~~region~~ geographic area. Such outreach
12 plans shall provide for public dissemination of information regarding developmental
13 disabilities and the services available through the ~~regional offices and~~ human
14 services authorities and districts.

15 (2) ~~These advisory committees~~ Each advisory committee shall be composed
16 of a minimum of twelve members who represent positions and philosophies held by
17 various groups and advocates for persons with developmental disabilities ~~and.~~ The
18 membership of each advisory committee shall include, but not be limited to:

19 (a) Persons with developmental disabilities.

20 (b) Parents and family members representing a cross section of
21 developmental disabilities services.

22 (c) Private providers.

23 (d) Representatives of advocacy organizations and community stakeholders
24 representing a cross section of developmental disabilities services.

25 (e) Public providers and administrators of ~~regional~~ administrative units and
26 human services authorities and districts, who may be appointed as ad hoc, non-voting
27 members of ~~regional advisory committees~~ the advisory committee.

28 E. The ~~regional~~ local authority, organized as ~~either a regional office or a~~
29 human services authority or district, shall discharge the following duties:

1 (1) Appoint the committee members from names submitted by consumer,
2 provider, and advocacy groups, with the approval of the assistant secretary of the
3 office, who shall ensure that committee composition is in compliance with the state
4 law.

5 (2) ~~Sixty~~ Ensure that at least sixty percent of the membership ~~shall be~~ of
6 each committee is composed of persons with developmental disabilities and parents
7 and family members representing a cross section of developmental disabilities
8 services.

9 F.(1) The office shall establish a state advisory committee which shall be
10 organized as follows:

11 ~~(a) Provide public input to the office regarding proposed regulations and the~~
12 ~~development of state planning and budget.~~

13 ~~(b) (a)~~ The state advisory committee shall consist of at least two people from
14 each ~~region, authority,~~ human services authority or district advisory committee.

15 ~~(c) Sixty~~ (b) At least sixty percent of the membership shall be comprised of
16 persons with developmental disabilities and parents and family members
17 representing a cross section of developmental disabilities services.

18 ~~(2) (c)~~ The membership of the state advisory committee shall include at a
19 minimum, but not be limited to the following:

20 ~~(a) (i)~~ (i) Persons with developmental disabilities.

21 ~~(b) (ii)~~ (ii) Parents and family members representing persons who receive a cross
22 section of developmental disabilities services.

23 ~~(c) (iii)~~ (iii) Private providers.

24 ~~(d) (iv)~~ (iv) A representative of the American Federation of State, County, and
25 Municipal Employees Council #17.

26 ~~(e) (v)~~ (v) Representatives of advocacy organizations representing a cross section
27 of developmental disabilities services.

Proposed law makes the following revisions to present law:

- (1) Clarifies roles and responsibilities of human services authorities and districts within the developmental disabilities services system.
- (2) Deletes references to regional offices and state developmental centers of DHH that are no longer in operation.
- (3) Deletes the defined term "regional office" and its corresponding definition.
- (4) Amends provisions referring to certain advisory committees and planning processes to specify that such groups and functions are local instead of regional.
- (5) Makes technical changes.

Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

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

(Amends R.S. 28:451.2(2) and (15)(intro. para.), 451.3(A) and (C)-(G), 451.4(B), and 455.2(B); Adds R.S. 28:915(B)(9); Repeals R.S. 28:451.2(23))