

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

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 28:451.2(2) and (15)(introductory paragraph), 451.3(A) and (C)  
3 through (G), 451.4(B), and 455.2(B), to enact R.S. 28:915(B)(9), and to repeal R.S.  
4 28:451.2(23), relative to implementation of the Developmental Disabilities Law; to  
5 provide for responsibilities of human services authorities and districts within the  
6 developmental disabilities services system; to provide for functions of advisory  
7 committees of human services authorities and districts; to delete outdated references  
8 to regional offices and state developmental centers of the office for citizens with  
9 developmental disabilities within the Department of Health and Hospitals; and to  
10 provide for related matters.

11 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

12 Section 1. R.S. 28:451.2(2) and (15)(introductory paragraph), 451.3(A) and (C)  
13 through (G), 451.4(B), and 455.2(B) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
14 28:915(B)(9) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

15 §451.2. Definitions

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

19 \* \* \*



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)~~ Persons with developmental disabilities.

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

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

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

26 ~~(e) (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))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Make a grammatical correction.