HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 490   **2017 Regular Session**   **Leger**

DRUGS/PRESCRIPTION: Creates the Advisory Council on Heroin and Opioid Prevention and Education

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Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1.   Removes the superintendent of state police from the council and adds the president of the Louisiana State Coroners Association as a member.

2.   Removes all ex officio nonvoting members from the council and authorizes the council to solicit input, recommendations, and guidance pertaining to heroin and opioid prevention and education from interested parties and stakeholders.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law requires the Drug Policy Board (board) to establish an Advisory Council on Heroin and Opioid Prevention and Education (council) to coordinate resources and expertise to assist in a statewide response.

Proposed law provides that the council shall consist of the following members:

(1)   The secretary of the La. Dept. of Health or his designee.

(2)   The secretary of the Dept. of Children and Family Services or his designee.

(3)   The state superintendent of education or his designee.

(4)   The secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections or his designee.

(5)   The president of the Louisiana State Coroners Association or his designee.

(6)   The commissioner of higher education or his designee.

(7)   The secretary of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs or his designee.

(8)   The executive director of the La. Workforce Commission or his designee.

(9)   The president of the Senate or his designee.

(10)   The speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee.

(11)   The attorney general or his designee.

(12)   The commissioner of insurance or his designee.

(13)   A judge from a drug division of a district court appointed by the chief justice of the La. Supreme Court.

Proposed law authorizes the council to engage and solicit, as necessary, input, recommendations, and guidance pertaining to heroin and opioid prevention and education from interested parties and stakeholders, including but not limited to all of the following:

(1)   The La. Board of Pharmacy.

(2)   The La. State Board of Medical Examiners.

(3)   The La. Sheriffs' Association.

(4)   The La. District Attorneys Association.

(5)   The La. State Medical Society.

(6)   The Chiropractic Association of La.

(7)   The La. Physical Therapy Association.

(8)   The La. Association of Chiefs of Police.

(9)   The La. Independent Pharmacies Association.

(10)   The La. State Nurses Association.

(11)   The La. Association of Nurse Practitioners.

(12)   The La. Ambulance Alliance.

(13)   The La. State Board of Nursing.

(14)   The La. Psychiatric Medical Association.

(15)   The La. Poison Control Center.

(16)   The La.-Ms. Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

(17)   The Optometry Association of La.

(18)   The La. Association of Health Plans.

Proposed law requires the council to serve in an advisory capacity to the board and establish an Interagency Heroin and Opioid Coordination Plan, which shall include but not be limited to all of the following:

(1)   Parish-level data on opioid overdoses and the dispensing of overdose-reversal medication.

(2)   Progress of current initiatives in the state relating to the heroin and opioid epidemic.

(3)   Specific impacts to agencies in addressing education, treatment including the use of medication-assisted treatment, prevention, overdose, and recovery.

Proposed law requires the council to coordinate parish-level data on opioid overdoses and usage of overdose-reversal medication as current and accurate statewide data is critical in educating both those involved in policy development and the citizens of this state.

Proposed law requires the council to also coordinate a central online location to disseminate information and resources, including the Interagency Heroin and Opioid Coordination Plan.

Proposed law provides for the officers, quorum and voting requirements, compensation, domicile, staffing, and meeting requirements of the council.

(Adds R.S. 49:219.5)