

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 579

BY REPRESENTATIVE ORTEGO

CULTURE/FRENCH: Provides relative to the official working language and certain designations of the Council for the Development of French in La. (CODOFIL)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 25:651(A) and to enact R.S. 25:651(D), relative to the Council
3 for the Development of French in Louisiana; to provide for the official working
4 language of the council and its employees; to authorize the council to use certain
5 other designations or names; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 25:651(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 25:651(D) is
8 hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §651. Creation; domicile; purposes

10 A.(1) The Council for the Development of French in Louisiana, hereinafter
11 referred to as the "council", is hereby created within the Department of Culture,
12 Recreation and Tourism to preserve, promote, and develop Louisiana's French and
13 Creole culture, heritage, and language.

14 (2) The official working language of the council and its employees shall be
15 French.

16 * * *

17 D. To reflect the council's educational, social, economic development, and
18 diplomatic missions as provided in this Chapter, the council shall also be authorized

- 1 to identify itself as "Office of Francophone Affairs" in English or "Agence des
2 Affaires Francophones" in French.
-

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)]

Ortego

HB No. 579

Abstract: Relative to the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL), provides that French shall be the working language of the council and its employees and authorizes it to use certain designations.

Present law creates the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL) in the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to preserve, promote, and develop La.'s French and Creole culture, heritage, and language. Includes among the purposes of CODOFIL overseeing development and expansion of the state's economic development and tourism activities designed to promote our French culture, heritage, and language and promoting, developing, and overseeing cultural and educational relations and exchanges within the state and between the state of La. and other countries, provinces, and states that share La.'s historical French heritage, culture, and language. Provides that council serves as the official state agency in all relations and exchanges between the state and other countries, provinces, and states enjoying membership or observer status in the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie and similar organizations.

Proposed law provides that the official working language of the council and its employees shall be French. Also authorizes the council to identify itself as "Office of Francophone Affairs" in English or "Agence des Affaires Francophones" in French, to reflect its educational, social, economic development, and diplomatic missions.

(Amends R.S. 25:651(A); Adds R.S. 25:651(D))