

Prior law (Sunset) provided that the Dept. of Insurance and all the statutory entities made a part of that department by law shall begin to terminate their operations on July 1, 2012, and that all legislative authority for such entities shall cease as of July 1, 2013, unless the legislature enacts a bill authorizing the re-creation of the department and its statutory entities prior thereto.

New law provides for the general re-creation of the Dept. of Insurance and its statutory entities, effective June 30, 2012, in accordance with the "sunset" law. Supersedes the provisions of the "sunset" law which set out the procedure for review and re-creation and which require a separate bill to re-create each statutory entity within the department along with additional provisions. July 1, 2017, is the new termination date and termination would begin July 1, 2016, unless the department is again re-created.

Prior law provided for the deputy commissioner for consumer advocacy in the La. Dept. of Insurance, who shall be appointed by the commissioner of insurance with consent of the Senate and who shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner at a salary fixed by the commissioner.

New law changes prior law by providing that the selection of the deputy commissioner will be with the advice and concurrence of the Senate and House committees on insurance.

Prior law provided that the deputy commissioner shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner at a salary fixed by the commissioner.

New law provides that the salary and benefits shall be the same as the majority of the deputy commissioners of the La. Dept. of Insurance.

New law provides that the office of consumer advocacy shall be staffed with no fewer than three full-time professional-level civil service employees to handle complaints, inquiries, and outreach. The office of consumer advocacy shall be staffed with no fewer than two full-time journeyman-level civil service employees to assist the professional level employees. The office of consumer advocacy shall have an administrative assistant designated by the deputy commissioner to handle travel, scheduling, office management, and any other duties assigned by the deputy commissioner.

Prior law provided that the office of consumer advocacy may be housed within the La. Dept. of Insurance or in satellite offices as outlined in the rules and regulations implemented by the commissioner pursuant to prior law.

New law provides that the office of consumer advocacy shall be housed within the La. Dept. of Insurance and as funding is available, open satellite offices as outlined in the rules and regulations implemented by the commissioner.

Prior law provided that the deputy commissioner for consumer advocacy can only be terminated for cause shown.

New law provides that the deputy commissioner for consumer advocacy may be terminated without cause shown.

Effective June 30, 2012.

(Amends R.S. 36:696(A) and (C); Adds R.S. 49:191(6)(a); Repeals R.S. 49:191(4)(b))