

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 475

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

CHILDREN/DCFS: Provides for the organization of the Department of Children and Family Services

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:555(A)(17), R.S. 36:3(4), 9(C)(2)(introductory paragraph),  
3 472(A), and 475, and R.S. 46:236.1.1(13) and to enact R.S. 36:476, relative to the  
4 organization of the Department of Children and Family Services; to rename the  
5 divisions of the department; to authorize a deputy secretary and assistant secretaries;  
6 to provide for an effect date; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 15:555(A)(17) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §555. Sexual Assault Task Force; creation; membership; meetings

10 A. The Louisiana Sexual Assault Task Force is hereby created within the  
11 Department of Justice, office of the attorney general. The task force shall consist of  
12 twenty-five members as follows:

13 \* \* \*

14 (17) The ~~deputy~~ assistant secretary of ~~programs~~ child welfare of the  
15 Department of Children and Family Services, or his designee.

16 \* \* \*

17 Section 2. R.S. 36:3(4), 9(C)(2)(introductory paragraph), 472(A), and 475 are hereby  
18 amended and reenacted and R.S. 36:476 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

19 §3. Definitions

20 For the purposes of this Title the following terms shall have the following  
21 meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

22 \* \* \*

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.



1 welfare, and the ~~deputy secretary of operations~~, assistant secretary of family support,  
2 each of whom shall be selected and shall perform functions as provided in this Title.

3 \* \* \*

4 §475. Deputy ~~secretaries~~ secretary

5 ~~A. There shall be a deputy secretary of programs and a deputy secretary of~~  
6 ~~operations, each of whom shall be appointed by the secretary with consent of the~~  
7 ~~Senate and shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary at a salary fixed by the~~  
8 ~~secretary, which salary shall not exceed the amount approved for the respective~~  
9 ~~position by the legislature while in session. The deputy secretary of programs shall~~  
10 ~~serve as acting secretary in the absence of the secretary.~~

11 ~~B. The deputy secretary of programs shall manage the division of programs~~  
12 ~~and perform the duties and functions of the department related to program~~  
13 ~~development and administration and development of rules and policies to govern the~~  
14 ~~various programs of the office of children and family services.~~

15 ~~C. The deputy secretary of operations shall manage the division of~~  
16 ~~operations and perform the duties and functions of the department related to the~~  
17 ~~program service delivery for the various programs of the office of children and~~  
18 ~~family services.~~

19 The secretary may appoint, with consent of the Senate, a deputy secretary of  
20 the department who shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary at a salary fixed by  
21 the secretary, which salary shall not exceed the amount approved for such position  
22 by the legislature while in session. The duties and functions of the deputy secretary  
23 shall be determined and assigned by the secretary. If appointed, the deputy secretary  
24 shall serve as acting secretary in the absence of the secretary.

25 §476. Assistant secretaries

26 A. There shall be an assistant secretary of child welfare and an assistant  
27 secretary of family support, who shall be appointed by the governor with consent of  
28 the Senate and who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor at a salary fixed by the



Proposed law authorizes the secretary of DCFS to appoint a single deputy secretary to perform duties and functions determined and assigned by the secretary. Proposed law requires the deputy secretary to serve as acting secretary in the absence of the secretary.

Proposed law updates references to the division of operations and division of programs in present law to either the division of child welfare or the division of family support.

Effective July 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 15:555(A)(17), R.S. 36:3(4), 9(C)(2)(intro. para.), 472(A), and 475, and R.S. 46:236.1.1(13); Adds R.S. 36:476)

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Make technical changes.
2. Update references in present law provisions regarding the La. Sexual Assault Task Force and family and child support programs.
3. Change the appointing authority for the assistant secretaries from the secretary of the department to the governor.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make a technical correction to a citation in the title of the bill.
2. Update the heading of a section amended by proposed law.