

State of Louisiana

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JBE 2016 – 22

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

- WHEREAS,** in November 2015, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development issued the 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress;
- WHEREAS,** this report estimated 564,708 people were homeless in the United States on a given night, and that 127,787 (or roughly one quarter) of those individuals were under the age of eighteen;
- WHEREAS,** this report also found that, of those 564,708 people, 96,275 were chronically homeless and 47,725 were veterans;
- WHEREAS,** in the timeframe of 2014-2015, Louisiana reduced the number of homeless people in families with children by approximately twenty-five percent; in the timeframe of 2009-2015, Louisiana experienced a decrease in homelessness among veterans of approximately eighty percent, one of the largest in the nation;
- WHEREAS,** the State has developed a Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness;
- WHEREAS,** effectively addressing homelessness requires collaboration among state agencies, local governments, the private sector, and service provider networks to coordinate program development, deliver essential services, and provide housing; and
- WHEREAS,** while many state departments and agencies are impacted by and work to address the challenges presented by homelessness, it is necessary to ensure that state government is coordinating its efforts effectively with the efforts of the federal government, local governments, the private sector and service provider networks.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

- SECTION 1:** The Governor's Council on Homelessness (hereafter "Council") is created within the executive department, Office of the Governor.
- SECTION 2:** The duties of the Council shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
- A. Advising the Governor on issues of concern to Louisiana citizens concerning homelessness;
 - B. Reviewing and updating Louisiana's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness;
 - C. Monitoring implementation of Louisiana's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness;

- D. Serving as a resource for information about access to available services for the homeless population, including housing and transportation options for the homeless;
- E. Consulting and coordinating all activities with the Federal Interagency Council for the Homeless, HUD, and all other federal agencies that provide assistance to the homeless;
- F. Ensuring the services for all homeless persons of the State of Louisiana are appropriately planned and coordinated, thereby reducing duplication among programs and activities by state agencies and other providers;
- G. Recommending improvements to the service delivery system for the homeless; and
- H. Conducting other activities as may be appropriate and necessary.

SECTION 3: On or before January 5, the Council shall submit to the Governor annual reports regarding the issues set forth in Section 2 of this Order.

SECTION 4: The Council shall be composed of a maximum of eleven (11) members who, unless otherwise specified, shall be designated by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor:

- 1. The attorney general, or the attorney general's designee;
- 2. The executive director of the Louisiana Housing Corporation, or the director's designee;
- 3. The secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or the secretary's designee;
- 4. The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, or the secretary's designee;
- 5. The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, or the secretary's designee;
- 6. The superintendent of the Department of Education, or the superintendent's designee;
- 7. The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, or the secretary's designee; and
- 8. Four (4) at-large members with qualifications deemed appropriate by the Governor.

SECTION 5: The chair of the Council shall be designated by the Governor from the membership of the Council. All other officers, if any, shall be elected by and from the membership of the Council.

SECTION 6: The Council shall meet at regularly scheduled intervals and at the call of the chair.

SECTION 7: Council members shall not receive additional compensation or a per diem from the Office of the Governor for serving on the Council.

Council members who are an employee or an elected public official of the State of Louisiana or a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana may seek reimbursement of travel expenses, in accordance with PPM 49, from their employing and/or elected department, agency and/or office.

Council members who are also a member of the Louisiana Legislature may seek a *per diem* from the Louisiana State Senate or House of Representatives, as appropriate, for their attendance.

SECTION 8: Support staff, facilities, and resources for the Council shall be provided by the Office of the Governor.

SECTION 9: All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the State of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Council in implementing the provisions of this Order.

SECTION 10: This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 3rd day of June, 2016.



GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE