

SENATE BILL NO. 57

BY SENATORS DORSEY-COLOMB, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CLAITOR, CROWE, ERDEY, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MURRAY, NEVERS, PETERSON, GARY SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON AND WALSWORTH AND REPRESENTATIVES WESLEY BISHOP, BURRELL, COX, DIXON, HENSGENS, HONORE, HOWARD, KATRINA JACKSON, JONES, TERRY LANDRY, LEBAS, MONTOUCET, NORTON, PRICE, THIERRY, ALFRED WILLIAMS, PATRICK WILLIAMS AND WILLMOTT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 36:259(NN) and R.S. 40:2018.3, relative to the creation of the Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission within the Department of Health and Hospitals; to provide for membership and terms; to provide for the functions of the commission; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 36:259(NN) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§259. Transfer of agencies and functions to Department of Health and Hospitals

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NN. The Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission (R.S. 40:2018.3) is placed within the Department of Health and Hospitals and shall exercise and perform its powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities as provided by or pursuant to law.

Section 2. R.S. 40:2018.3 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2018.3. Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission

A. There shall be established within the Department of Health and Hospitals a commission designated the "Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission", composed of eleven members as provided in Subsection B of this Section.

1 **B.(1) Eight members shall be appointed by the governor, subject to**
2 **Senate confirmation, from a list submitted by each of the following**
3 **organizations:**

4 **(a) A representative from the Sickle Cell Center of Southern Louisiana,**
5 **Tulane University School of Medicine.**

6 **(b) A representative from Children's Hospital, New Orleans.**

7 **(c) A representative from the Louisiana Primary Care Association.**

8 **(d) A representative from The Baton Rouge Sickle Cell Anemia**
9 **Foundation, Inc.**

10 **(e) A representative from the Northeast Louisiana Sickle Cell Anemia**
11 **Technical Resource Foundation, Inc.**

12 **(f) A representative from the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America,**
13 **Inc., Northwest Louisiana Chapter.**

14 **(g) A representative from the Sickle Cell Anemia Research Foundation,**
15 **Alexandria.**

16 **(h) A representative from the Southwest Louisiana Sickle Cell Anemia,**
17 **Inc.**

18 **(2) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, or his**
19 **designee.**

20 **(3) Two members shall be appointed as follows:**

21 **(a) One member of the Louisiana Senate appointed by the president of**
22 **the Senate.**

23 **(b) One member of the Louisiana House of Representatives appointed**
24 **by the speaker of the House of Representatives.**

25 **(4) Each appointment by the governor shall serve at his pleasure. The**
26 **legislative members shall serve at the pleasure of the presiding officer of the**
27 **respective legislative body.**

28 **(5) The term of an appointee shall be four years. Any vacancy occurring**
29 **in board membership shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in**
30 **the same manner as the original appointment.**

1 (6) Nonlegislative members of the commission shall not be entitled to a
2 per diem or any other compensation for their service but shall be entitled to
3 reimbursement of any necessary and reasonable expense incurred in the
4 performance of their duties on the panel, including travel expenses. Each
5 legislative member of the commission shall receive a per diem and travel
6 expenses equal to the per diem and travel expenses provided by law for
7 members of the legislature.

8 (7) Meetings of the commission shall be held at the call of the chairman
9 or on a petition of at least five members of the commission.

10 (8) At the first meeting of the commission, each year after its members
11 assume their positions, the members shall select one of the commission members
12 to serve as chairman and one of the commission members to serve as vice
13 chairman, and each shall serve for a term of one year. The chairman shall
14 preside at meetings of the commission, and in his absence, the vice chairman
15 shall preside.

16 (9) The commission shall hold at least four regular meetings each year
17 at the Department of Health and Hospitals headquarters in Baton Rouge.

18 (10) The appointment of the initial members of the commission shall take
19 place no later than October 1, 2013, and the commission shall convene its first
20 meeting no later than November 1, 2013.

21 C. The Department of Health and Hospitals shall provide administrative
22 assistance to and serve as staff for the commission.

23 D. The functions of the commission shall be to:

24 (1) Ensure the delivery of sickle cell services to affected persons in all
25 parishes in Louisiana and assist in establishing geographical service delivery
26 boundaries.

27 (2) Promulgate guidelines for creating uniformity in the delivery of
28 services and the management of statewide programs.

29 (3) Submit budget recommendations to the legislature and the governor.

30 (4) Prepare and publish an annual report on sickle cell that includes:

- 1 (a) An assessment of the programs and activities aimed at sickle cell.
- 2 (b) A description of the level of coordination existing between the state
- 3 and private stakeholders in the management and treatment of sickle cell.
- 4 (c) The development of a detailed action plan for battling sickle cell.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____