SLS 10RS-1841 **ENGROSSED**

Regular Session, 2010

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SENATE BILL NO. 743

BY SENATOR BROOME

CIVIC EDUCATION. Provides for the selection process for certain members, terms, and vacancies on the Legislative Youth Advisory Council, and for the submission of an annual report. (8/15/10)

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 24:973.1(B)(1) and (2), (D), and (E)(5), relative to the
3	Legislative Youth Advisory Council; to provide for membership and terms; to
4	provide for the selection of members nominated for membership by certain school
5	clubs and community organizations; to provide relative to the selection process; to
6	provide for submission of an annual report; and to provide for related matters.
7	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
8	Section 1. R.S. 24:973.1(B)(1) and (2), (D), and (E)(5) are hereby amended and
9	reenacted to read as follows:
10	§973.1. Legislative Youth Advisory Council; purpose, membership, duties,
11	administration, report, student privacy
12	* * *
13	B. Membership. (1) The council shall consist of the following youth
14	members:
15	(a)(i) Members appointed by the commission to represent youth within a
16	congressional district. Two youth members shall be appointed by the Louisiana
17	Commission on Civic Education from each congressional district in a manner which

reflects the diversity of the state to the greatest extent practicable <u>pursuant to an</u> <u>application process as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection</u>. Youth members shall possess the qualifications as provided in Subsection C of this Section.

- (ii) The commission shall select members <u>to the council</u> pursuant to this Subparagraph from among youths recommended by any school administrator, teacher, or representative of an approved home study program or a general education development skills program.
- (iii) In the event two qualified applicants cannot be found to represent a particular congressional district, in lieu of directly filling any such vacancy, the commission may select a qualified applicant from among youths nominated by a school club or community organization, as provided in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, to serve as an at-large member in order to ensure full membership on the council.
- (b)(i) Members nominated by certain school or <u>clubs and</u> community organizations. Up to seven youths may serve as members nominated by a <u>state level</u>, school-sponsored <u>club</u> or community <u>service club or</u> organization which has a mission that supports the ideals of character, leadership, and service; encourages mutual respect and instills civic responsibility; builds courage and confidence among young people through community participation; or promotes the principles of representative democracy, in an effort to build stronger communities by increasing civic engagement among youth.
- (ii) If the number of clubs or organizations eligible for and making a request to participate exceeds seven, the initial members shall be determined by lot. Following the initial appointments to the council, the membership shall rotate annually among the eligible clubs or organizations selected in the same manner and pursuant to the application process, specified in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, as provided for the selection of other members by the commission.
- (iii) Any state level club or organization that meets the qualifications of this Subparagraph may submit one name to the commission, along with a letter of

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2	which the youth is nominated and a letter of recommendation from a school
3	administrator, teacher, or representative of an approved home study program
4	or general education development skills program.
5	(2) The application form and process for membership on the council shall
6	be developed and approved by the commission.
7	* * *
8	D. Terms of office. (1) Members appointed by the commission pursuant to
9	Subparagraph (B)(1)(a) of this Section shall serve a two-year term of one year and
10	may be reappointed for a subsequent term, provided that they are eligible at the time
11	of reappointment. However, no member of the council shall serve more than two
12	consecutive terms.
13	(2) A member representing an eligible club or organization pursuant to
14	Subparagraph (B)(1)(b) of this Section shall serve a term of one year.
15	E. Duties. The council shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
16	* * *
17	(5) To submit an annual report by February fifteenth May thirtieth of each
18	year of its activities, including any recommendations for proposed legislation, to the
19	governor, the Senate and House committees on education, and the commission.
20	* * *
21	Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall be effective for the members appointed
22	to the Legislative Youth Advisory Council beginning with the 2010-2011 term.
23	Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
24	signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
25	by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
26	vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
27	effective on the day following such approval.

recommendation from an adult representative of the club or organization from

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Sherri H. Breaux.

DIGEST

Broome (SB 743)

<u>Present law</u> establishes the Legislative Youth Advisory Council and requires that each member of the council be a student attending a La. high school or BESE-approved home study who is 14 to 19 years old, or a student of the same age participating in a GED skills program.

Proposed law retains present law.

<u>Present law</u> provides for membership to consist of 21 youth members as follows:

- (1) Members appointed by the Commission on Civic Education: two youth members from each congressional district (14 members) in a manner which reflects the diversity of the state to the greatest extent practicable. Requires recommendation by a school administrator, teacher, or representative of an approved home study program or a GED skills program.
- (2) Members nominated by certain school or community organizations: up to seven youths may serve as members nominated by a state level, school-sponsored or community service club or organization which has a civic mission. Provides that if the number of eligible clubs or organizations making a request to participate exceeds seven, the membership will rotate annually among the eligible clubs or organizations making application.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains the membership specified in <u>present law</u> but, in addition, provides that in the event two qualified applicants cannot be found to represent a particular congressional district, in lieu of directly filling any such vacancy, the commission may select a qualified applicant from among youths nominated by a school club or community organization to serve as an "at-large" member in order to ensure full membership on the council.

<u>Proposed law</u> also changes the process by which members are selected from those youths nominated by a school club or community organization with civic mission. Removes the process for selection determined by an annual rotation of organizations and instead provides for such nominees to be subject to the same application and selection process as other youth members, as approved by the commission.

<u>Proposed law</u> further eliminates the requirement that the club or organization be a state level organization to also allow local community organizations meeting the criteria to nominate youth for membership. Requires a letter of recommendation from an adult representative of the club or organization from which the youth is nominated and from a school administrator, teacher, or representative of a BESE-approved home study program or GED skills program.

<u>Present law</u> provides that members appointed by the commission to represent youth from among their congressional serve terms of two years and may be reappointed for a subsequent term provided that they are eligible at the time of reappointment. Provides for members representing an eligible club or organization serve terms of one year.

<u>Proposed law</u>, instead, provides that all members serve a term of one year; however, provides for no member of the council to serve more than two consecutive terms.

<u>Present law</u> provides the application form for membership on the council shall be developed by the commission.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and further specifies that the application process for membership be developed and approved by the commission.

<u>Present law</u> requires the submission of an annual report by February 15th of each year of its activities to the governor, the Senate and House committees on education, and the commission.

Proposed law instead requires the annual report by May 30th of each year.

Provides for effectiveness for members appointed for the 2010-2011 term.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 24:973.1(B)(1) and (2), (D), and (E)(5))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

<u>Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill.</u>

- 1. Provides for all members to serve terms of one year and limits membership to no more than two consecutive terms.
- 2. Allows for the appointment of an "at-large" member representing a civic club or organization to fill a vacancy if two qualified applicants cannot be found to represent a particular district.
- 3. Provides effectiveness beginning with the appointments for the 2010-2011 term.
- 4. Adds effective date of governor's signature.