

RS 51:1256

§1256. Creation of the Louisiana Tourism Development Commission; domicile; composition; membership; confirmation; terms; vacancy

A. The Louisiana Tourism Development Commission is hereby created, as an agency of the state in the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism. The commission shall be a body politic and corporate entity. The commission shall be domiciled in Baton Rouge.

B. The commission shall be composed of twenty members.

(1) Ex officio members shall be as follows:

(a) The lieutenant governor or his designee.

(b) The secretary of state or his designee.

(2) The following organizations shall each submit a list of four names to the lieutenant governor, from which the lieutenant governor shall appoint one individual from each organization for membership on the commission:

(a) The Louisiana Association of Fairs and Festivals.

(b) The Louisiana Campground Owners Association.

(c) The Louisiana Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus.

(d) The Louisiana Preservation Alliance, Inc.

(e) The Louisiana Association of Museums.

(f) The Louisiana Bed and Breakfast Association.

(g) The Louisiana Travel Association.

(h) The Louisiana Attractions Association.

(i) Repealed by Acts 2020, No. 86, §3.

(3) The following organizations shall each submit a list of eight names to the lieutenant governor, from which the lieutenant governor shall appoint two individuals from each organization for membership on the commission:

(a) Louisiana Restaurant Association.

(b) Louisiana Hotel and Lodging Association.

(4) Six at-large members shall be appointed directly by the lieutenant governor.

C. All appointed members shall be knowledgeable, interested, and active in tourism promotional activities, in enhancing the state's image, and in diversifying the state's economy by encouraging and assisting employment opportunities in the travel and hospitality industries.

D. Repealed by Acts 1984, No. 751, §1, eff. July 13, 1984.

E. The lieutenant governor shall appoint at least one member from each of the state's congressional districts from among those nominated by the nominator groups. The lieutenant governor shall appoint the members no later than sixty days from the date he takes office.

F. Each appointment by the lieutenant governor shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation.

G. Each appointed member shall serve at the pleasure of the lieutenant governor and shall continue to serve until his successor is appointed.

H. An ex officio member may be represented by his first assistant as his designee at any meeting. A designee shall have full voting privileges. In the event that an ex officio member is unable to attend a meeting, he shall notify the commission in writing at least three calendar days prior to the meeting of his intent to send his designee.

I. The ex officio members shall have the right to participate in and vote on all matters of the commission.

J. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their services as members of the commission, but shall be entitled to their actual expenses for necessary travel and for other expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the commission payable out of the funds of the commission.

K. Any vacancy shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment within sixty days, except that the nominating group shall submit a list of three names for the person to be selected if the vacancy occurs from among the membership named by a group. The qualifications of each member of the commission shall continue to apply throughout his tenure on the commission, and, in the event a member after appointment should fail to meet the qualifications or classification that he possessed at the time of his appointment, the member shall resign or be removed and shall be replaced with a member possessing the proper qualifications and classification.

Acts 1983, No. 688, §4; Acts 1984, No. 751, §2, eff. July 13, 1984; Acts 1990, No. 396, §1, eff. July 18, 1990; Acts 1991, No. 188, §1, eff. Jan. 13, 1992; Acts 1992, No. 367, §§1 and 2; Acts 1997, No. 762, §1; Acts 2008, No. 804, §2; Acts 2020, No. 86, §§2, 3.

NOTE: This Section is updated through the 2020 First Extraordinary Session, but is subject to final technical revisions by the Louisiana State Law Institute.

RS 51:1257

§1257. Commission duties and responsibilities; meetings

A. The commission shall serve in an advisory capacity to the assistant secretary and to the secretary of the department on matters related to the development and implementation of programs to promote tourism and the historical, cultural, recreational, and scenic legacy of the state.

B. The commission shall have the following responsibilities:

(1) The commission shall review and advise on the major types of promotion and advertising contracts, prior to their approval.

(2) The assistant secretary, secretary, and commission shall jointly formulate the strategic plan for tourism development and any modifications thereto.

C. In addition to the responsibilities outlined above, the commission shall submit to the lieutenant governor a list of at least three, but not more than five qualified nominees from among eligible applicants to fill a vacancy for the position of assistant secretary.

D. The commission shall be authorized to do the following:

(1) Hold at least four regular meetings in a calendar year for the following purposes:

(a) To obtain opinions and information concerning tourism policies and programs of the state, the development of the tourist industry, and opportunities for expanding tourism in Louisiana.

(b) To conduct public hearings on the effectiveness of tourist promotion activities performed by the office.

(c) To provide adequate opportunities for parochial and municipal participation, federal agency participation, and private citizens' involvement in the decision-making process of tourism planning and policy formulation.

(d) To encourage all state, parochial, and municipal governmental and private agencies to do their best to assure the personal safety of residents and tourists both within and without tourist destination areas.

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(2) Adopt procedures, rules, and regulations for the deliberations, transactions, and conduct of its business, all in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

(3) Keep a record of its transactions, findings, determinations, recommendations, resolutions, reports, and studies.

E. The lieutenant governor shall designate one member of the commission to serve as chairman. The commission shall elect a vice chairman and such other officers as deemed necessary. The chairman is authorized to call meetings of the commission when necessary and shall call a meeting when requested to do so in writing by at least eight members of the commission. A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business and the execution of the duties of the commission.

Added by Acts 1983, No. 688, §4. Acts 1984, No. 751, §2, eff. July 13, 1984; Acts 1986, No. 464, §1; Acts 2004, No. 114, §1; Acts 2008, No. 804, §2; Acts 2020, No. 86, §2.

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