**RS 37:3444**

§3444.  Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners

A.  There is hereby created in the Department of Health and Hospitals the Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners, hereafter referred to as the "board", consisting of five members, who shall be residents of the state of Louisiana.  The members shall be appointed by the governor from a list of qualified candidates supplied by the Louisiana Association of Rehabilitation Professionals, as specified in this Section within sixty days after July 14, 1988 to serve the following terms: one member for a term of two years, two members for terms of three years, and two members for terms of four years.  Thereafter, each term shall be for four years.  Each appointment by the governor shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation.

B.  The membership of the board shall consist of three licensed professional vocational rehabilitation counselors and two individuals from the public at large.  The original professional membership of the board shall be qualified to be licensed under this Chapter, except that the initial professional members shall be persons who have rendered rehabilitation counseling for at least three years.  Within thirty days after July 14, 1988, the executive committee of the Louisiana Association for Rehabilitation Professionals shall submit to the governor a list of qualified candidates for the board.  The board shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as this Chapter prescribes and confers upon it.  No member of the board shall be individually liable for any act or omission resulting in damage or injury arising out of the exercise of his judgment in the formation and implementation of policy while acting as a member of the board, provided he was acting in good faith and within the scope of his official functions and duties, unless the damage or injury was caused by his willful or wanton misconduct.

C.  No board member shall serve more than two full consecutive terms.  Subsequent appointments to the board shall be made in the manner of the original appointments, including the submission of a list of qualified candidates by the executive committee of the Louisiana Association for Rehabilitation Professionals.  Any board member may be removed by the governor or majority vote of the board, after notice and hearing, for incompetence, neglect of duty, malfeasance in office, or moral turpitude.  Any vacancy occurring in board membership, other than by expiration of term, shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by the governor within thirty days from a list of qualified candidates supplied by the Louisiana Association for Rehabilitation Professionals.

D.  Each board member shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for actual travel, incidental, and clerical expenses incurred while engaged on official board business.

E.  Each board member shall take the constitutional oath of office for state officials before any officer authorized to administer oaths in this state.

Acts 1988, No. 555, §1, eff. July 14, 1988; Acts 1989, No. 456, §1.