

# John Bel Edwards

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### State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health

Office of Public Health

**LOUISIANA COMMISSION ON PERINATAL CARE AND PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY**

1888-204-5984 Access Code 1982918

November 8, 2018

Attendees: Dr. P. Scott Barrilleaux, Dr. Steven Spedale, Dr. Stacy Drury, Dr. Joseph Biggio, Dr. Rodney Wise, Dr. Robert Blereau, Emily Stevens, Amy Zapata

 Phone: Dr. Amarjit Nijjar

Guests: Dr. Pooja Mehta, Dr. Lyn Kieltyka, Kelly Bankston, Karis Schoellmann, Robin Gruenfeld, Rebecca Roques, Matthew Wallace, Berkley Durbin, Marci Brewer, Marty Hennegan, Chaquetta Johnson, Kerrie Redmond, Amy Ladley, Bernadette Williams, Greg Waddell, Renee Antoine, Rosa Bustamante-Forest, Debra Perna, Rebecca Majdoch, Nicole Soudelier

**Meeting Notes:**

1. Review/Approval of Previous Meeting Notes

The meeting notes from the following dates were approved unanimously: March 8 & 15, 2018, April 2018, May 2018, June 2018, July 2018, Sep 2018, Oct 2018.

1. Operating Guidelines

An amendment to the Perinatal Commission Operating Guidelines was unanimously adopted and approved changing language in the text under the Membership Section, Participation and Attendance Requirements

1. Maintaining “active” member status: Commission members *who are not legislators* may not miss more than three consecutive meetings.
2. Breastfeeding Support
* The Commission members voted unanimously to reaffirm support for breastfeeding and Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) breastfeeding support initiatives by adopting the policy statement below:

*Given the documented short- and long-term medical and neurodevelopmental advantages of breastfeeding, infant nutrition should be considered a public health issue and not only a lifestyle choice.*

*The Louisiana Commission on Perinatal Care and Prevention of Infant Mortality (Perinatal Commission) reaffirms its support for breastfeeding and human milk as the normative standards for infant feeding and nutrition and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommendation of exclusive breastfeeding for approximately 6 months, followed by continued breastfeeding as complementary foods are introduced, with continuation of breastfeeding for 1 year or longer as mutually desired by mother and infant.*

*The Perinatal Commission supports the LDH-OPH-Bureau of Family Health’s The Gift program and the international Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative which emphasize quality improvement, safety, equity, as well as patient-centered care.*

*The Perinatal Commission Chair signature will continue to be included on Gift designation award certificates. The commission will actively steward Louisiana Department of Health breastfeeding efforts and will work to ensure that breastfeeding best practices are integrated, or at minimum not contradicted, in other Commission efforts, when applicable.*

* In addition, Commission members voted unanimously to: “Commit to taking an active role in ensuring/recommending that breastfeeding evidence-based practices (Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding), supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, are included in the next revision of the state Perinatal Regulations.”
1. Free Standing Birthing Facilities

Commission members voted unanimously to recommend that the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) pursue statutory authority that requires all free standing birthing facilities (as defined by the American Public Health Association (APHA) in Louisiana be licensed and accredited by the Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers (CABC).

1. Updates/Follow-Up
* NAS Subgroup- subgroup is working on finalizing recommendations to present to Commission.
* Louisiana Medicaid: Dr. Mehta provided various updates including on the process for restructuring the Quality Strategy, and on the restructuring of the covered benefits process to create transparent tracking.
* Pregnancy Associated Mortality Review (PAMR)- the review committee is meeting regularly to review cases and is almost as up-to-date as it can be.
* Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative (LaPQC)- 31 hospitals participated in the 1st Learning Session of the LaPQC’s “Reducing Maternal Morbidity Initiative. The second session is scheduled for Jan 23, 2019. A major upcoming task is to access Louisiana Hospital Inpatient Discharge Database (LAHIDD) to help hospitals validate severe maternal morbidity data.
* Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR)- The topic was deferred until a future meeting. Dr. Spedale reiterated the importance of the maternal interview in the FIMR process.
* Legislative Items-
	+ HB 818-Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies Advisory Council: –Meetings have begun, Commission will be kept abreast of activities.
	+ HB 658- Opioid Pilot Project- This legislation requires a pilot demonstration program that focuses on improving outcomes related to neonatal opiate withdrawal syndrome. Commission members will be asked to provide input on a request for information/solicitation that would be issued to evaluate interested, suitable sites to host this pilot demonstration.
1. Congenital Syphilis in Louisiana Presentation

Dr. Chaquetta Johnson presented on the issue of congenital syphilis in Louisiana. She will follow-up with resources for providers.

1. Adjourn

In-Person Meetings will remain on the second Thursday of every other month in 2018 and 2019 from 1:00-3:00 PM. However, in January the in-person meeting will be moved to Jan 31, 2019. Workgroup calls will be held on the third Wednesday from 11:30-12:30 PM.