

**Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Friday, March 6, 2020**

Final Approved May 20, 2020

The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board or LSBEP) was noticed and agenda posted on, Wednesday, March 4, 2020. Board Chair, Dr. Koren Boggs, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, March 6, 2020 at 4334 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Suite C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70816. Dr. Boggs read the mission statement: *“It is hereby declared that the creation of a state board of examiners of psychologists is necessary in order to safeguard life, health, property, and the public welfare of this state, and in order to protect the people of this state against unauthorized, unqualified, and improper application of psychology.”*

Board Members Present: Drs. Koren Boggs, Amy Henke, Gregory Gormanous, Gina Gibson Michelle Moore  
Board Members Absent: Consumer Board Member, Mr. Darren “Chance” McNeely; Staff Present: Executive Director, Jaime T. Monic. Public/Guests Present: Dr. Kim VanGeffen, Dr. Richard Niolon and Dr. Thomas Holcomb representing LPA were present for the open meeting.

Dr. Gormanous requested that his statement of service be recorded into the minutes as follows: *“My serving on LSBEP is to ensure that consumers of psychological services are protected against any unqualified, harmful and unauthorized practice, application or use of psychology. My service is as a consumer advocate and educator. My service is not as a market participant.”*

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Dr. Henke moved to approve the agenda as posted. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Dr. Gormanous moved to approve the minutes of November 11, 2019 and January 21, 2020 as discussed. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

Dr. Moore moved to approve the minutes of February 7, 2020 as discussed. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Dr. Gormanous moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to LSA R.S.42:17.A(2) and (4) to discuss file reviews, consider complaint matters and conduct oral examinations. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

Dr. Gormanous moved to close Executive Session to enter the Open Meeting and report on Executive Session matters. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

**ORAL EXAMINATIONS [LSA-R.S.42.16.1]:**

**COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS:**

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**Margaret A. Smith, Psy.D.** appeared before Board members Drs. Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson and Moore for licensure via Certificate of Professional Qualifications. Finding that **Dr. Smith** has met the qualifications for licensure and received the required training for practice in the area of Clinical Psychology, Dr. Gormanous moved that **Dr. Smith** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

**Rebecca Wallace, Ph.D.** appeared before Board Members, Drs. Gormanous, Gibson, and Moore for an Oral Examination for licensure. The board discussed **Dr. Wallace** performance and qualifications in executive session. Finding that **Dr. Wallace** has met the qualifications for licensure and received the required training for practice in the area of Clinical Psychology, Dr. Gormanous moved that **Dr. Wallace** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

**Heather Ellingson, Psy.D.** appeared before Board Members, Drs. Boggs and Henke for an Oral Examination for licensure. The board discussed **Dr. Ellingson** performance and qualifications in executive session. Finding that **Dr. Ellingson** has met the qualifications for licensure and received the required training for practice in the area of Clinical Psychology, Dr. Henke moved that **Dr. Ellingson** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

**Robert L. Collins, Ph.D.** appeared before Board members Drs. Boggs and Henke for licensure as a Diplomat of the American Board of Professional Psychology. Finding that **Dr. Collins** has met the qualifications for licensure and received the required training for practice in the area of Clinical Psychology, Dr. Boggs moved that **Dr. Collins** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

**Nicholas M. Wisdom, Ph.D.** appeared before Board members Drs. Gormanous, Gibson and Moore for licensure as a Diplomat of the American Board of Professional Psychology. Finding that **Dr. Wisdom** has met the qualifications for licensure and received the required training for practice in the area of Clinical Psychology, Dr. Gibson moved that **Dr. Wisdom** be granted a license to practice psychology with a declared specialty in Clinical Psychology. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

#### **COMPLAINTS [LSA R.S. 42.16]:**

Dr. Sasha Lambert joined the meeting via teleconference to summarize cases and present recommendations to the Board.

1. NP18-19-07P (In the matter filed by DA) – The board reviewed this matter and current disposition of the case. No action was recommended at this time.

2. P18-19-11C (In the matter filed by AC) – Dr. Sasha J. Lambert presented this case with a recommendation to dismiss this matter with a *Letter of Education*. After consideration of all information and discussion, finding insufficient evidence to proceed with formal disciplinary action, Dr. Gormanous moved to accept recommendation

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to dismiss this matter without further action. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

Additionally, by Motion of Dr. Gormanous, the Board delegated authority to the Complaint Committee to draft the *Letter of Education to close the investigation without further action*. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

3. In the matter filed by PJ Rec'd 11/31/2019 – gibson moved to accept recommendation with letter to dismiss without further action. Unanimous.

4. P19-20-02C (In the matter filed by PL) - Dr. Sasha J. Lambert presented this case with a recommendation to dismiss this matter with a *Letter of Education*. After consideration of all information and discussion, finding insufficient evidence to proceed with formal disciplinary action Dr. Henke moved to accept Dr, Lambert's recommendation to dismiss with letter of education. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (4) Boggs, Henke, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: (1) Gormanous; Absent: (1) McNeely

Additionally, by motion of Dr. Henke, the Board delegated authority to the Complaint Committee to draft the *Letter of Education to close the investigation without further action*. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (4) Boggs, Henke, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: (1) Gormanous; Absent: (1) McNeely

5. P19-20-05C (In the matter filed by DHMH) – Dr. Sasha J. Lambert presented this case with a recommendation to dismiss this matter without further action. After consideration of all information and discussion, finding insufficient evidence to proceed with formal disciplinary action Dr. Moore moved to accept Dr, Lambert's recommendation to dismiss the matter without further action. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely

## **COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS**

The Board received committee reports and recommendations as follows:

1. **Executive Director Report:** Ms. Monic reported the following:
  - Civil Matter - U.S. Western District, Lafayette Div. No. 6:17-CV-01095 Eric R. Cerwonka, PsyD vs. LSBEP, Jaime Monic was argued before U.S. District Judge Michael J. Juneau (Magistrate of Judge Whitehurst) on February 13, 2020. On February 14, 2020, the matter was dismissed with prejudice at the cost of Plaintiff.
  - The new *Application for Authorization to Provide Telesupervision* and updated guidelines have been published on the Board's website.
2. **Finance Committee:**
  - a. **Financial Reports** – Due to a technical error, the board was unable to review Financial Reports for February 2020. Ms. Monic summarized the reports and will have the information available for the April 3, 2020 board meeting.
  - b. **Leave Report Approvals (KB)** – Dr. Boggs reported the review and approval of Leave Reports for Ms. Monic; Ms. Monic reported the review and approval of Leave Reports for Mr. Owens.

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3. **Oral Examination Committee** – Dr. Moore reported the board conducted two oral examinations and three reciprocity interviews in executive session this date. Dr. Moore reported on initiatives to revise the oral examination by reviewing the benefits and efficacy of current procedures.

4. **Jurisprudence Examination Committee** – No report.

5. **Legislative Oversight Committee** – Dr. Gormanous reserved his comments for the 2020 Legislative Review Discussion item this date.

6. **Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards** – Dr. Gormanous affirmed plans had been made for Ms. Monic, Dr. Gibson and himself to meet with Mariann Burnett-Atwell, Psy.D. in Montreal during the ASPPB Mid-winter Meeting..

7. **Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Committee** – Dr. Henke reported that she was working on a new article for the Newsletter in a series related to Continuing Education

8. **Supervision/Credentials Committee** – Ms. Monic reported the LSSP Committee met on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 and on behalf of the LSSP Committee offered the following report and recommendations:

**Kelley M. Pursell, M.A.** – Dr. Hebert reviewed and approved this Dr. Hebert, finding that the requirements for licensure have been met, moved that the Committee confirm the Candidacy status of **Ms. Pursell** and recommend her to the Board for licensure as a Specialist in School Psychology.

**LaTasha M. Cubas, S.S.P.** - Dr. Hebert reviewed and approved this Dr. Hebert, finding that the requirements for licensure have been met, moved that the Committee confirm the Candidacy status of **Ms. Cubas** and recommend her to the Board for licensure as a Specialist in School Psychology.

**DeAnna Yelverton, S.S.P.** - Dr. Hebert reviewed and approved this Dr. Hebert, finding that the requirements for licensure have been met, moved that the Committee confirm the Candidacy status of **Ms. Yelverton** and recommend her to the Board for licensure as a Specialist in School Psychology.

The Board discussed the recommendations of the LSSP Committee and by motion of Dr. Henke, approved the issuance of a license as Licensed Specialist in School Psychology to **Kelley M. Pursell, M.A., LaTasha M. Cubas, S.S.P., and DeAnna Yelverton, S.S.P.** In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely

Dr. Moore reported that the committee reviewed application files during executive session this date. Dr. Boggs reported that the workgroup revised the professional reference form, declaration of competencies form, and post-doctoral supervision form. The Committee continues to work on revising all forms currently required as part of the application for licensure. Dr. Boggs reiterated that the Committee's goal in revising the forms was to be able to utilize all documentation to corroborate the applicant's training and experience such that, if the applicant does not provide documentation that is consistent with an applicant's declaration then the unverified competency will then become part of their oral examination.

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Dr. Gormanous moved to establish a standing Public and Professional Outreach Committee. Distinguished from the Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards by their recommendations to write Newsletter articles and conduct outreach surveys. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely. Dr. Boggs appointed Drs. Henke and Moore to the Public and Professional Outreach Committee.

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

- 1) LSSP Committee:
  - a) **LSSP Appointment for 7/1/2019 – 6/30/2020** – The Board reviewed the self-nominations and unanimously appointed Dr. Katherine Chenier to replace Dr. Amy Morvant’s seat on the LSSP Advisory Committee to the LSBEP. Dr. Gormanous moved in favor of accepting the LSSP Committee recommendation to appoint Dr. Chenier for the term 3/6/2020 – 6/30/2023. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by unanimous roll-call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely
  - b) b. Call for Nominations, Vacancy July 1, 2020. – The Board discussed the next Call for Nominations and requested the nomination form be amended prior to initiating the Call.
- 2) 2020 Legislative Review – Board Member Chance McNeely joined the meeting via teleconference for this agenda item.
  - a) LSBEP Housekeeping Legislation – The board again reviewed and considered revisions for potential housekeeping legislation for the 2020 Regular Legislative Session including: board member composition, Definition of “Practice of psychology”; Summary Suspension provision; Emeritus License (full retirement/no CE/minimum fee); R.S. 37:2356.B. and C. require updating related to examinations; Unlicensed Assistants; registration; revocation and fee schedule; and Disclosure of information received in an administrative investigation falling under other state or federal jurisdictional oversight. Dr. VanGeffen stated her concerns that she did not feel as though LPA’s Legislative Committee had enough time to consider the changes, and was concerned that opening the psychology practice act would pose a risk of having others interfere with the psychology scope of practice. Dr. Thomas Holcomb commented that LPA would like to see proposed legislation ahead of time and would appreciate the opportunity to consider items they felt needed longer discussion. Dr. Gormanous stated for the record that this discussion has been ongoing for a while, and with serious intent since at least the Long Range Planning in October 2019, that he is the one who pushed the notion for identifying the need to define the summary suspension procedure, and also going back to the process of registering unlicensed assistants.
  - b) 2020 Regular Session, Proposed legislation impacting LSBEP - Mr. McNeely stated that the deadline for filing a bill for the 2020 Regular Session is March 29, 2020 and each legislator has 5 bills they are allowed to file after the pre-file deadline. He reported that there is a new clerk and the bills are first going to commerce. Mr. McNeely said he would like to see that the Bill stays on track to get filed before the deadline while continuing to have a conversation with LPA to address concerns before the Bill goes to committee. Dr. Gormanous moved in favor of filing the proposed housekeeping legislation as soon as possible and continue to collaborate and receive additional input from LPA after their April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, and from LAMP. In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (1) McNeely; Absent: (0). Dr. Gormanous moved further that the LSBEP Legislative Committee be empowered to make changes based on input from LPA and LAMP due to the pace at which bills move through the process. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote. In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (1) McNeely; Absent: (0)

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- 3) Review Reciprocity Regulations (Certificate of Professional Qualifications and American Board of Professional Psychology) Review Policy and Procedures – Review Policy and Procedures – Draft Revisions incorporating Compliance Officer – due to time, this matter was tabled until the next scheduled board meeting.
- 4) Delegation of Subpoena authority: Chain of Command – The Board discussed the delegated authority of the Chair to sign subpoena’s on behalf of the Board. Ms. Monic presented a situation where the Board Chair would need to be recused from a matter and would not be able to carry out this task. The Board discussed the matter and by motion of Dr. Boggs agreed that it would be proper procedure, should the board chair be recused from a case, that the Executive Director establish the Vice Chair as the board member serving on the Complaints Committee. Should the Vice Chair need to be recused, the member who’s appointment immediately followed the Vice Chair and so on. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed by unanimous roll-call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, and Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely
- 5) LSSP and contractual relationships - due to time, this matter was tabled until the next scheduled board meeting.
- 6) Newsletter - due to time, this matter was tabled until the next scheduled board meeting.
- 7) Proposed changes to CPST services – due to time, this matter was tabled until the next scheduled board meeting.
- 8) 2020-2021 Contracts – The Board discussed an amendment to the legal contract for Chehardy, Sherman, Williams, Murray, Recile, Stakelum & Hayes, LLP., as requested by Ms. Courtney Newton related to hourly rates. Dr. Henke moved in favor of increasing rates to \$225/hour as requested and in line with approved Attorney General rates but not increasing the total contract amount until the board had more time to assess its budget and continuing with a prosecutor at higher rates. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed by unanimous roll-call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, and Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely
- 9) 2019-20 and 2020-21 Budget Review; security and related considerations. – Dr. Gormanous discussed increased security due to continued concerns arising out of complaint and legal matters and requested the Board approve \$2500 to upgrade the security system for the LSBEP Office. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed by unanimous roll-call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, and Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely
- 10) Approval of Revised Application Forms – due to time, this matter was tabled until the next scheduled board meeting, it was requested that Ms. Monic circulate the forms for review by the board.
- 11) Inquiry from Sasha J. Lambert – Dr. Gibson made a motion for Dr. Henke to have the authority to review and respond to Dr. Lamberts inquiry. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed by unanimous roll-call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, and Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely

Dr. Moore moved to enter executive session to complete file reviews. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed by unanimous roll-call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Gormanous, Henke, Gibson, and Moore; Against: 0; Abstained: (0); Absent: (1) McNeely

Dr. Moore moved to close Executive Session to enter the Open Meeting and report on Executive Session matters. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (5) Boggs, Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, Against: 0; Abstained: 0; Absent: (1) McNeely

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**SUPERVISION/CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: APPLICANT/LICENSE FILE REVIEWS [LSA-R.S. 42.17.A(1)]:**

Dr. Gormanous reviewed the Temporary Registration of **Dr. Robert Daniel Shaffer**. Finding that the requirements for a temporary practice registration had been met, Dr. Gormanous recommended the Board grant **Dr. Shaffer** a Temporary Registration to practice. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gormanous reviewed the Temporary Registration of **Dr. Zavier Amador**. Finding that the requirements for a temporary practice registration had been met, Dr. Gormanous recommended the Board grant Dr. Amador a Temporary Registration to practice. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Moore reviewed the Temporary Registration of **Dr. Robert T. Kinscherff**. Finding that the requirements for a temporary practice registration had been met, Dr. Moore recommended the Board grant Dr. Kinscherff a Temporary Registration to practice. The Board discussed the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gormanous reviewed and presented the Application for License of **Elizabeth Allain, Ph.D.**, with a motion that the Board confirm the applicants Candidacy status and invite **Dr. Allain** to take the Oral Examination to complete the licensing process. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Henke reviewed and presented the Applications for License of **Jared I. Isreal, Ph.D.** to the Board with a motion to confirm the applicants Candidacy status and invite **Dr. Isreal** to take the Oral Examination to complete the licensing process. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Henke reviewed and presented the Application for License of **Elie N. Cohen, Ph.D.**, with a motion that the Board confirm the applicants Candidacy and invite **Dr. Cohen** to take the Oral Examination to complete the licensing process. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Henke reviewed and presented the Applications for License of **Jared I. Isreal, Ph.D.** to the Board with a motion to confirm the applicants Candidacy status and invite **Dr. Isreal** to take the Oral Examination to complete the licensing process. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Moore reviewed and presented the Applications for License via Certificate of Professional Qualifications of **Jane Booth Lewis, Ph.D.** to the Board with a motion to confirm the applicants Candidacy status and invite **Dr. Booth Lewis** to a Face-to-face meeting with the Board to complete the licensing process. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gibson reviewed and presented the Applications for License of **I Shujaa K. Miller, Ph.D.** to the Board with a motion to confirm the applicants Candidacy status and invite **Dr. Miller** to take the Oral Examination to complete the licensing process. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gibson reviewed and presented the Applications for License of **Kristin R. Tubre, Psy.D.** to the Board with a motion to grant **Dr. Tubre's** waiver to document one year of supervision under LA 37:2356.A(6), confirm the applicants Candidacy status, and invite **Dr. Tubre** to take the Oral Examination to complete the licensing process upon receipt of passing Jurisprudence Examination. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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Dr. Boggs reviewed and presented the Application for Reinstatement of License of **Andrea L. Ridgway, Ph.D.** with a motion that Dr. Ridgway had paid the required fees and supplied the documentation required for the reinstatement of her license. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Henke reported she reviewed and approved the revised Supervised Practice Plan for Danielle Cohn, Ph.D.

5:30 p.m.      **ADJOURN**

#### LEGAL NOTICES

La. R.S. 37:23.2 - In compliance with La. R.S. 37:23.2, the LSBEP hereby gives notice to its licensees and applicants of their opportunity to file a complaint about board actions and board procedures. You may submit such complaints to one or more of the following organizations: Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists: Submit in writing to: LSBEP, 4334 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, #C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70816; [admin.lsbep@la.gov](mailto:admin.lsbep@la.gov); (225)925-6511; Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives: Submit to: [H&GA@legis.la.gov](mailto:H&GA@legis.la.gov) or Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives, PO Box 44486, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225) 342-2403; Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate: Submit to: [s&g@legis.la.gov](mailto:s&g@legis.la.gov) or Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate PO Box 94183, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225)342-9845

LA R.S. 42.14.D. Public comments\*\* – In accordance with LA R.S. 42.14.D., the LSBEP shall allow public comments at any point in the meeting prior to action on an agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken. Individuals who wish to comment on a matter must sign in and state their intent to comment on a matter.

La. R.S. 44:33.1 - In compliance with La. R.S. 44:33.1, the LSBEP hereby gives notice that information submitted to the LSBEP may become public record pursuant to the provisions of Louisiana Public Records Law, La. R.S. 44:1, et seq.

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