**Drug Policy Board Bylaws**

# (Revised January, 2011)

**ARTICLE I *Name***

The name of this board shall be the Drug Policy Board, in accordance with Title 49, Chapter 2, Part IV of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

**ARTICLE II *Policy and Purpose***

Section 1: It is the policy of the state to undertake every responsible effort, explore every opportunity, invite every useful contribution, and expend every available resource, to eliminate the abuse of drugs and alcohol and the damage to people and institutions that results from such abuse.

Section 2: In view of the policy of the state, it is the purpose of this Part to establish a state agency organizationally positioned and structurally empowered to elicit, motivate, and coordinate the best efforts and ideas of all organizations, agencies, entities, and individuals who volunteer or can be conscripted to make a contribution toward the goal of eradicating drug and alcohol abuse and its poisonous fruit.

**ARTICLE III *Membership***

Section 1: The board shall be composed of twenty-three members.

1. Thirteen of the members shall be as follows:
2. The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.
3. The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections or his designee.
4. The superintendent of state police or his designee.
5. The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services or his designee.
6. The executive director of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement or his designee.
7. The superintendent of education or his designee.
8. The commander in chief of the national guard or his designee.
9. The attorney general or his designee.
10. The chairman of the Louisiana Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse or his designee.
11. The commissioner of Alcohol and Tobacco Control or his designee.
12. The executive director of the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program or his designee.
13. A member of the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission.
14. A member of the Board of Pharmacy.
15. Two of the members shall be as follows:
16. A member of the House Committee on Health and Welfare as designated by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
17. A member of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare as designated by the president of the Senate.
18. The remaining eight members shall be appointed by the governor subject to the confirmation of the Senate as follows:
19. A representative of a private organization involved in substance abuse prevention.
20. The president or a representative of the District Attorneys Association.
21. A representative of a federal agency with responsibilities in alcohol and drug abuse education, treatment, or prevention.
22. The president or a representative of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association.
23. A representative of the indigent defender system.
24. A district court judge.
25. A representative from the alcohol industry.
26. A physician representing the field of substance abuse treatment or substance abuse prevention.

Section 2: Each member shall serve a term concurrent with that of the appointing governor. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

**ARTICLE IV *Officers***

Section 1: The members of the board shall elect from among themselves a chair, whose term shall be concurrent with that of the governor.

Section 2: Other officers can be nominated and elected by the board, as deemed necessary.

**ARTICLE V *Legislative Duties and Functions***

Section 1: In accordance to R.S. 49:219.3, the board shall:

1. Identify, examine, select or develop, recommend or implement, drug control policies and strategies to more effectively combat illegal drugs and alcohol abuse.
2. Stress a coordinated approach emphasizing application, or needed revisions, of enforcement capabilities targeting drug use, sale, and supply.
3. Identify, examine, select or develop, recommend or implement, demand reduction measures such as education, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and public awareness.
4. Receive reports of the allocations and expenditures of all federal anti-drug abuse funds earmarked for education, treatment, rehabilitation, and law enforcement.
5. Evaluate how anti-drug monies both state and federal are utilized in implementing anti-drug programs at the state and local agencies.
6. Evaluate changes in the methods or priorities of the allocation of funds to state and local agencies.
7. Identify and evaluate the effectiveness of state and local public awareness and drug prevention programs in both the public and private sectors in order to develop a series of recommendations for improving the effectiveness of such programs.
8. Evaluate specific problem areas relating to the enforcement of drug laws and make recommendations in order to improve the impact of those laws through legislative refinement or executive order.
9. Assess the roles and interaction of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies and operations in combating drug abuse and trafficking, with recommendations for improving the effectiveness of multi-jurisdictional operations throughout the state.
10. Provide an interim report to the governor regarding findings, activities and recommendations by July 1, 1991 and thereafter at least on a quarterly basis or more often if deemed necessary by the governor or the board.
11. Develop long and/or short range plans or strategies that prioritize areas of need or otherwise organize the use of resources.
12. Seek assistance or support from any state agency or private sector entity which may be helpful in diminishing or eradicating drug and alcohol abuse.
13. Adopt and promulgate rules as may be necessary to implement this Part.

Section 2: Other duties can be assigned by the governor or by a majority vote of the board, as deemed necessary.

Section 3: Staff support shall be provided by the executive office of the governor and may be provided by the agencies of the executive department of the government as directed by the governor.

**ARTICLE VI *Committees***

Section 1: The Prevention Systems Committee (PSC) is created as a state level advisory committee of the Drug Policy Board. The purpose of this committee is to make recommendations regarding effective programs, policies, and practices regarding resource and capacity issues, as well as develop a framework to build an advocacy network for prevention.

Section 2: The State Epidemiology Workgroup (SEW) is created as state level advisory committee of the Drug Policy Board. The purpose of this committee is to advise and make recommendations on issues relating to collecting, housing, analyzing, and reporting consumption and consequence data related to substance use.

Section 3: By a majority vote of the board, other committees or task forces can be created to assist the board to carry out its duties as listed in Article V.

**ARTICLE VII *Meetings and Procedures***

Section 1: Meetings of the board shall take place on the third Wednesday of the months of January, April, July, and October, and at other times as determined by the chair. All meetings are public.

Section 2: Official action of the board shall require the affirmative approval of not less than a majority of those present. A quorum shall be required to conduct a meeting. A quorum shall be a majority of the total membership of the board.

Section 3: Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the standard procedure for all board meetings.

Section 4: All agendas shall be generated by the Governor’s Office and the chair. The agenda shall be published at least seven workdays before the next scheduled Drug Policy Board meeting.

Section 5: Minutes will be taken of all Drug Policy Board meetings. The minutes will be published to all members of the Drug Policy Board within a reasonable time after the meeting.

Section 6: These bylaws may be amended by the Drug Policy Board by a majority vote with notice or a two-thirds vote without notice.