

RS 25:651

CHAPTER 13. COUNCIL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FRENCH IN LOUISIANA

§651. Creation; domicile; purposes

A. The Council for the Development of French in Louisiana, hereinafter referred to as the "council", is hereby created within the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to preserve, promote, and develop Louisiana's French and Creole culture, heritage, and language.

B. The council shall be domiciled in Lafayette, Louisiana.

C. The purposes of the council shall include the following:

(1) To oversee the development and expansion of the state's economic development and tourism activities designed to promote our French culture, heritage, and language.

(2) To promote, develop, and oversee cultural and educational relations and exchanges within the state and between the state of Louisiana and other countries, provinces, and states that share Louisiana's historical French heritage, culture, and language.

(3) To promote, support, and enhance French language immersion educational programs and instruction at all levels of elementary and secondary education in the state by working cooperatively and collaboratively with the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state Department of Education.

(4) To develop a model French immersion program which can be used by any school seeking to establish a French immersion program within its curriculum.

(5) To increase the number of French immersion schools in the state, with the specific goal of establishing, not later than September 1, 2015, at least one French immersion school in East Baton Rouge Parish and in each of the following parishes which comprise the Acadiana Region:

- (a) Acadia
- (b) Ascension
- (c) Assumption
- (d) Avoyelles
- (e) Calcasieu
- (f) Cameron
- (g) Evangeline
- (h) Iberia
- (i) Iberville
- (j) Jefferson Davis
- (k) Lafayette
- (l) Lafourche
- (m) Pointe Coupee
- (n) St. Charles
- (o) St. James
- (p) St. Landry
- (q) St. Martin
- (r) St. Mary

- (s) St. John the Baptist
- (t) Terrebonne
- (u) Vermilion
- (v) West Baton Rouge

(6) To develop a certification system whereby vendors, festivals, and restaurants may be designated "Francophone Friendly" and design and issue a marquee that may be displayed by each certified entity.

Acts 1968, No. 409, §1. Amended by Acts 1968, Ex. Sess., No. 22, §1; Acts 2010, No. 679, §1.

NOTE: See Acts 2010, No. 679, §5, regarding creation of an advisory committee.

RS 25:652

§652. Membership; appointment; terms; vacancies; compensation

A. The council shall be composed of twenty-three members as follows:

(1) Two members appointed by the governor.

(2) Four members appointed by the Louisiana section of the Assemblée des Parlementaires Francophones.

(3) Two members appointed by the council's Consortium of Louisiana Colleges and Universities.

(4) One member appointed by the Le Centre International de Lafayette.

(5) One member appointed by the Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation.

(6) The mayor of New Orleans, or his designee.

(7) One member appointed by the French-American Chamber of Commerce, Louisiana Chapter.

(8) One member appointed by the Louisiana Educational Television Authority.

(9) One member appointed by La Fondation Louisiane.

(10) Four members appointed by the Louisiana Consortium of Immersion Schools.

(11) Two members appointed by the American Association of Teachers of French, Louisiana Chapter.

(12) One member appointed by the United Houma Nation.

(13) One member appointed by the Association Louisiane-Acadie.

(14) One member appointed by the Louisiana State Bar Association, Francophone Section.

B. All members shall be confirmed by the Senate.

C. Members shall serve four-year terms, concurrent with that of the governor.

D. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner of original appointment and each member shall serve until his successor is appointed and takes office.

E. Members of the council shall serve without compensation.

Acts 1968, No. 409, §2. Amended by Acts 1968, Ex.Sess., No. 22, §1; Acts 2010, No. 679, §1.

NOTE: See Acts 2010, No. 679, §5, regarding creation of an advisory committee.

RS 25:653

§653. Duties, powers, and functions

A. The council shall serve as the official state agency in all relations and exchanges between the state of Louisiana and other countries, provinces, and states enjoying membership or observer status in the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie and similar organizations.

B. A majority of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of official business. All official actions of the council shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting.

C. The council shall elect a chairman, who shall be fluent in the French language, and may elect such other officers as deemed necessary to effectively conduct the council's business. Officers shall serve two-year terms.

D. The council shall:

(1) Meet at least once a year, or at the call of the chairman, and at such other times deemed necessary by the chairman or the executive committee.

(2)(a) Create an executive committee consisting of seven members of the council, including the chairman of the council and six other council members as the council may determine. All members of the executive committee shall be fluent in the French language.

(b) A majority of the members of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. However, when the council has delegated to the committee full power to act with respect to a matter, affirmative action by a majority of the entire committee membership shall be required.

(3)(a) Appoint an executive director, who shall be fluent in French, and who shall perform such duties and possess such qualifications as established by the council.

(b) The executive director shall be in the unclassified service of the state and his compensation shall be determined by the council.

(4) Adopt bylaws and establish policies to govern the operations of the council and the executive committee.

E. The council may:

(1) Cooperate with and advise other state agencies, including public institutions of education.

(2) Establish such committees as it deems necessary to efficiently conduct the council's business.

Acts 1968, No. 409, §3. Amended by Acts 1968, Ex.Sess., No. 22, §1; Acts 2010, No. 679, §1.

NOTE: See Acts 2010, No. 679, §5, regarding creation of an advisory committee.

RS 25:654

§654. Donations and grants

The Council for the Development of French in Louisiana may accept donations and grants from any source, public and private, in order to accomplish the purposes of the council.

Acts 2010, No. 679, §1.

NOTE: See Acts 2010, No. 679, §5, regarding creation of an advisory committee.

RS 25:655

§655. Annual report

The council shall submit an annual report to the governor, the president of the Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, and the chairman of the House Committee on Education, not later than March first, regarding all actions taken and progress made toward achieving the purposes and duties set forth for the council in this Chapter.

Acts 2010, No. 679, §1.

NOTE: See Acts 2010, No. 679, §5, regarding creation of an advisory committee.