**Chapter 2**

**LEGAL AUTHORITY**

**Federal Law**

Louisiana Rehabilitation Services derives its authority to operate the Louisiana Business Enterprise Program from **20 U.S.C. 107 et seq. commonly referred to as the Randolph-Sheppard Act.** This legislation gives this agency priority for the establishment of vending facilities on federal property.

**State Law**

**Effective July 1, 2010, ACT 939 moved Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, Blind Business Enterprise Program to the Louisiana Workforce Commission.**

**LA R.S. 23:3023** gives preference to the blind in operation of vending facilities, vending machines, and other small business concessions to be operated on the premises of state buildings and grounds.

**Designation as a State Licensing Agency**

Louisiana Rehabilitation Services has been designated by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education, as the State Licensing Agency under the Randolph-Sheppard Act (20 U.S.C., Chapter 6, Section 107 et seq.).

**Rules and Regulations**

Louisiana Business Enterprise Program operates in accordance with the rules and regulations as per ACT 939 of July 2010, duly promulgated in accordance with R.S. 23:3021–3033 and R.S. 23:3041-3045 provides for the establishment of the Blind Vendors Trust Fund. Such rules are issued in compliance with the Randolph-Sheppard Act, as amended.

**Administrative Procedures Act**

LA R.S. 49.950 et seq. is the Administrative Procedure Act for the authority to promulgate rules.

**Technical Assistance and Guidance Manual**

The Technical Assistance and Guidance Manual does not replace Chapter 5 in the Business Enterprise Program Policy Manual, but rather supplements the rules to enhance the abilities of Licensed Managers and Randolph-Sheppard (RS) Program staff to achieve the goals of the program.

Each Randolph-Sheppard Management Analyst (RSMA) and Licensed Manager will be furnished with a copy of the Technical Assistance and Guidance Manual. Revisions to the manual, with effective dates, will be distributed in a timely manner to each Licensed Manager and RSMA.

Upon receipt of the Randolph Sheppard Technical Assistance and Guidance Manual, and subsequent revisions, the Licensed Manager will sign a statement acknowledging receipt of the manual and agreeing to abide by the procedures in the manual This document will be maintained in the Licensed Manager’s file by the RSMA.