

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health Office of Public Health

Commission for the Deaf
(LAC 67:VII.309)

In accordance with R.S. 46:2352(B) and with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., the Department of Health (LDH) proposes to amend LAC 67:VII.309.B to provide for the roles and functions of the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf Board.

Title 67

SOCIAL SERVICES

Part VII. Rehabilitation Services

Chapter 3. Commission for the Deaf

§309. Louisiana Commission for the Deaf Board of Commissioners

A. Name. The name shall be the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf Board of Commissioners, hereinafter referred to as the “board of commissioners”.

B. The role and function of the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf board of commissioners are as follows:

1. to support the work of the commission by making recommendations to the commission regarding its programs, policies, procedures, regulations, rules and criteria on behalf of d/Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing communities and their families;

2. to advocate for the general welfare, needs, and rights of d/Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing individuals in this state through education, advising, informing, and promoting relevant laws, policies, and practices which support the eradication of barriers and discrimination affecting individuals who are d/Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing; and

3. to create standing committees, ad hoc committees, or task forces as needed to assist in carrying out the above objectives.

a. The duties of all such committees shall be to identify, inform, and/or research needs, actions, policies, or laws relevant to the constituent group of the commission, unless otherwise defined by the board of commissioners.

b. Committees may include current board of commissioner members and/or nonmembers. Composition of committees shall be a maximum of nine individuals and should generally reflect state-wide representation, if possible.

c. Terms of membership for committees shall be at the discretion of the board of commissioners and identified at the time of creation.

d. A person may be eligible for appointment to the committee if their position, knowledge, or experience qualifies them to represent the concerns, needs, and recommendations of the Deaf, DeafBlind, hard of hearing community and/or the sign language interpreter workforce in Louisiana. The board of commissioners may specify additional qualification requirements.

e. The executive director may participate at the discretion of the chair in the deliberations of all committees as a nonvoting member, with the exception of the Executive Director Evaluation Committee.

C. The following standing committee shall be overseen by the board of commissioners.

1. Executive Committee. The composition of the executive committee shall be comprised of the elected officers of the board of commissioners (chair, vice-chair, and secretary).

2. The purpose of the executive committee shall be to:

a. Establish the agenda for public meetings of the board of commissioners with the support of the executive director.

b. Respond to urgent matters that preclude the entire board of commissioners assembling. Decisions made by the executive committee must be ratified by the board of commissioners at its next meeting.

c. Participate in hiring process of the executive director for the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf Program make the following recommendations to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, as prescribed by law:

i. qualifications, job duties and responsibilities, and salary of the executive director position.

ii. participate in interviews to fill the executive director position; recommend candidate.

iii. inform strategic goals for the executive director.

iv. inform performance review of the executive director bi-annually. The process for review shall be as follows:

(a). review initial goals;

(b). gather input from the board of commissioners on the executive director's performance;

(c). receive executive director's self-evaluation

(d). combine input and draft a summary of the findings;

(e). meet with executive director to review findings

(f). submit final report to board of commissioners for review;

(g). submit final report to secretary.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2352 and R.S. 47:1061.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, Commission for the Deaf, LR 13:93 (February 1987), amended LR 17:388 (April 1991), repromulgated LR 21:589 (June 1995), amended by the Department of Health, Office of Public Health, LR 51:

Family Impact Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on family, formation, stability, and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

Poverty Impact Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on any child, individual, or family as defined by R.S. 49:973.

Small Business Analysis

Pursuant to R.S. 49:965.6, methods for reduction of the impact on small business, as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, have been considered when creating this proposed Rule. This proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on small businesses; therefore, a Small Business Economic Impact Statement has not been prepared.

Provider Impact Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on staffing requirements, qualifications, and cost for providers as defined by HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed Rule. Such comments must be received no later than Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at close of business, 4:30 p.m., and should be addressed to Amy Zapata, Program Manager, Bureau of Family Health, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 North Fourth Street, Suite 590, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or emailed to Amy Zapata at amy.zapata@la.gov.

Public Hearing

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing either by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 10, 2025. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:953(A)(2)(a) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 26, 2025, in Room 117 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after Tuesday, June 10,

2025. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing. In the event of a hearing, parking is available to the public in the Galvez Parking Garage which is located between North Sixth and North Fifth/North and Main Streets (cater-corner from the Bienville Building). Validated parking for the Galvez Garage may be available to public hearing attendees when the parking ticket is presented to LDH staff at the hearing.

Bruce D. Greenstein
Secretary

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

RULE TITLE: Commission for the Deaf

**I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO
STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (Summary)**

Other than the cost of rulemaking, there are no estimated implementation costs or savings for state or local government units resulting from the promulgation of the proposed rule change. The cost for the Office of Public Health is approximately \$121 in FY 25 for the notice and rule publication in the *Louisiana Register*.

The proposed rule changes will allow for the creation of standing committees, ad hoc committees, or task forces as needed to carry out legislative mandates as well as to inform the board of commissioners of its role in making recommendations to the secretary related to the hiring and ongoing employment of the LCD Program's executive director.

**II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE
OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)**

The proposed rule change is not anticipated to impact the revenue collections of state or local governmental units.

**III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO
DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR
NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)**

There are no known estimated costs and/or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.

**IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT
(Summary)**

There is no estimated effect on competition and employment.

Tonya Joiner
Assistant Secretary
2505#038

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer
Legislative Fiscal Office

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Preparing Statement:	Amy Zapata	Dept.:	Louisiana Department of Health
Phone:	(504) 568-3506	Office:	Office of Public Health
Return Address:	628 N. Fourth Street, P.O. Box 3214	Rule Title:	LCD Board of Commissioners -
	Baton Rouge, LA 70821		Amended Secretary's Rule
		Date Rule Takes Effect:	Upon Promulgation

SUMMARY
(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 961 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

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There is no estimated effect on competition and employment.

	
Signature of Head or Designee	Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee
Tonya Joiner	
Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee	
5/8/25	5/08/2025
Date of Signature	Date of Signature

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

- A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The Office of Public Health is amending the secretary's rules (Title 67, Part VII, Section 309) for the LCD board of commissioners. The proposed rule changes will allow for the creation of standing committees, ad hoc committees, or task forces as needed to carry out legislative mandates as well as to inform the board of commissioners of its role in making recommendations to the secretary related to the hiring and ongoing employment of the LCD Program's executive director.

- B. Summarize the circumstances, which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

Louisiana R.S. 46:2352(B) provides that the secretary [of the Louisiana Department of Health shall promulgate rules to establish the roles and responsibilities of the board. These rules, as required by law, were promulgated in the October 2024 version of the Louisiana Administrative Code (Title 67, Part VII, Section 309). Current rule requires amendment to include necessary roles and responsibilities to assist in carrying out certain functions of the board of commissioners.

- C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

- (1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

The proposed rule revision will not require any additional funding or expenditure of funds.

- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) _____ YES. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) X _____ NO. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time

Office of Public Health has determined that proposed rule changes are in the public's best interest.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$121	\$0	\$0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER CHARGES	\$0	\$0	\$0
EQUIPMENT	\$0	\$0	\$0
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$121	\$0	\$0
POSITIONS (#)	0	0	0

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A. 1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

Other than the cost of rulemaking, there are no estimated implementation costs or savings for state agencies resulting from the promulgation of the proposed rule change. The cost for the Office of Public Health is approximately \$121 in FY 25 for the notice and rule publication in the Louisiana Register.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27
STATE GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$0	\$0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
DEDICATED	\$121	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER (Specify)	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$121	\$0	\$0

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Yes. The agency currently has sufficient funds to implement the proposed action. The Office of Public Health will utilize funds from the Telecommunication for the Deaf Fund (Statutory Dedications) for the associated expenditures.

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

There are no reporting requirements being placed on local governmental units. Therefore, the Department does not anticipate any impacts, whether additional costs or savings, to local governmental units including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements, that will result from the promulgation of this rule.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit, which will be affected by these costs or savings.

The proposed rule change will not impact sources of funding of local governmental units.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27
STATE GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$0	\$0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
DEDICATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
LOCAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0

*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

The proposed rule changes will not affect revenue collections for state or local governmental units.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

III. COSTS AND /OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

- A. What persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

There are no known estimated costs and/or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.

- B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

The proposed rule change will not have an effect on receipts or income.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

There are no known effects on competition and employment.

From: [Jana Broussard](#)
To: [Gabrielle Lewis \(LDH\)](#)
Subject: Re: Public Hearing Requests/Public Comments for Commission for the Deaf & State Sign Language Interpreter Certification Standards
Date: Thursday, July 17, 2025 5:35:28 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi, that is correct

Thanks!

Jana M. Broussard

Interim Executive Director

Louisiana Commission for the Deaf

Office of Public Health | Bureau of Family Health

Louisiana Department of Health

628 N Fourth Street, Fifth Floor

Baton Rouge, La. 70802

Phone: (225) 219-1668 | VP: (225) 217-6306

<http://ldh.la.gov/lcd>

On Jul 17, 2025, at 5:26 PM, Gabrielle Lewis (LDH) <Gabrielle.Lewis3@la.gov> wrote:

Hi Jana,

Please confirm that you received no PH requests nor Public Comments for the other two LCD two rules, Commission for the Deaf (LAC 67:VII.309) and State Sign Language Interpreter Certification Standards (LAC 67:VII.1301).

Gabrielle A.E. Lewis, Esq., MPA

Rulemaking Liason, Bureau of Legislative & Regulatory Affairs

Louisiana Department of Health | Office of Public Health

Cell: (318) 439-3125

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