

New law revises terminology referring to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities.

General Provisions

New law revises terminology in prior law referring to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities by deleting and making substitutions for obsolete, derogatory, or offensive terms.

New law corrects names of agencies, institutions, private organizations, and other entities; removes references to offices, bureaus, and other subdivisions of state agencies and to programs and services that have otherwise been repealed or no longer exist; and makes technical changes and corrections.

New law provides a legislative finding indicating that language used to refer to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities shapes and reflects attitudes toward and perceptions of such persons by society.

New law provides that it is the intent of the legislature, through enactment of new law, to:

- (1) Delete from prior law terms that convey negative or derogatory perceptions of persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities.
- (2) Establish new terminology in law that is more appropriate than the terminology it replaces, and which conveys no explicit or implicit dehumanization of persons with disabilities or other persons with exceptionalities.

New law stipulates that it is not the intent of the legislature that the changes in terms affected by new law affect the substance, application, or interpretation of any provision of existing law or existing administrative code.

New law provides that nothing in new law shall be construed to expand or diminish any right of or benefit for any person provided by existing law or existing administrative code.

Effective prospectively, new law authorizes and requests each agency, board, commission, department, and other instrumentality of the state with rulemaking authority to employ the preferred terminology provided for in new law in referring to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities in the following:

- (1) Duly promulgated administrative rules.
- (2) Policy publications.
- (3) All materials published in paper format or electronically, whether for internal use or public use, including but not limited to the following:
 - (a) Informational brochures.
 - (b) Resource guides.
 - (c) Reference materials.
 - (d) Manuals.
 - (e) The content of any Internet website or other electronic media.

New law stipulates that nothing in new law shall be construed to limit any agency, board, commission, department, office, or other instrumentality of the state from amending existing administrative code for the purpose of instituting the preferred terminology described in new law.

New law authorizes the legislative services offices of the legislature to publish guidance in legislative drafting manuals and in other professional resources as appropriate concerning use of the preferred terminology described in new law.

New law authorizes the La. State Law Institute to change terminology referring to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities throughout statutes and codes wherever necessary to institute the preferred terminology described in new law.

Description of Terminology Changes

New law provides for the following changes to terminology in prior law:

- (1) For purposes of new law, references to "intellectual disability" mean any condition formerly referred to as "mental retardation".
- (2) For purposes of new law, references to a "person with an intellectual disability" mean a person formerly referred to as "mentally retarded".
- (3) For purposes of new law, the term "disability", as used to describe a condition or characteristic of a person, has the meaning of the former term "handicap" as used in the same manner.
- (4) For purposes of new law, references to a "person with a physical disability" and a "person with a disability", as appropriate to the context, mean a person formerly referred to as "physically handicapped", a "handicapped person", "the handicapped", a "crippled person", a "disabled person", or "the disabled".
- (5) For purposes of new law, references to a "person who is infirm" and a "person with an infirmity" have the meaning of the former terms "the infirm" or "the infirmed".
- (6) For purposes of new law, references to a person who "acquires a disability" have the meaning of the former references to a person who "becomes disabled".
- (7) For purposes of new law, references to "certified as having a disability" have the meaning of the former references to "certified as disabled".
- (8) For purposes of new law, the terms "accessible" and "accessibility" have the meanings, respectively, of the former terms "handicapped accessible" and "handicapped accessibility".
- (9) For purposes of new law, references to a "person with a mobility impairment" mean a person formerly referred to as "mobility impaired".
- (10) For purposes of new law, references to a "person with mental illness" mean a person formerly referred to as either "the mentally ill" or a "mentally ill person".

New law provides that for purposes of new law, the linguistic paradigm known as "person first language", which emphasizes a person's humanity over any condition or characteristic the person may have, is employed wherever possible to refer to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities. Provides a declaration affirming the importance of person first language as a respectful and preferred way of referring to persons with disabilities and other persons with exceptionalities.

Location of Terminology Changes

New law changes the terms "mentally retarded" and "mental retardation" to "intellectually disabled" and "intellectual disability", as appropriate to the context, in the following sections and articles of existing law:

R.S. 4:715, R.S. 11:783, 2220, 2256, 3438, and 3553, R.S. 14:35.2, 93.3, and 126.3, R.S. 15:830 and 830.1, R.S. 22:941, 1000, 1003, 1097, and 1242, R.S. 23:322, 1371.1, and 1378, R.S. 28:2, 831, 854, 864, and 874, R.S. 33:1236, R.S. 36:251 and 254, R.S. 39:1484, 1494.1, and 1554, R.S. 40:1299.27, 1379.3, 1472.3, 2009.21, 2102, and 2116, R.S. 46:51, 53, and 2253, R.S. 47:44.1, 79, 305.38, and 337.9, R.S.

51:2232, R.S. 56:302.1, C.C. Arts. 354, 356, and 358-360, C.Cr.P. Arts. 658 and 905.5.1, and Ch.C. Arts. 683, 781, 837.1, 895, 1003, 1125, and 1404.

New law changes the term "handicap", where used to describe a condition or characteristic of a person, to "disability" in the following sections of existing law:

R.S. 11:1151, 1151.1, 1318, 1323, and 2077, R.S. 15:1402, R.S. 17:158, R.S. 22:941, 1000, 1001, 1003, 1012, 1242, and 1288, R.S. 32:295.1, R.S. 33:2411, 4720.62, 4720.112, and 4720.138, R.S. 46:1407, 2252, 2254, and 2255, R.S. 51:2602, 2603, and 2606 - 2608, and R.S. 56:1762.

New law changes the terms "the handicapped", "the physically handicapped", "handicapped person", "crippled person", "disabled person", and "the disabled" to "person with a physical disability" and "person with a disability", as appropriate to the context, in the following sections and articles of existing law:

R.S. 6:747, R.S. 9:1613, 2799, 2799.3, and 3541.21, R.S. 11:293, 778, 784, 805, 901.37, 952.36, 1147, 1151, 1151.1, 1313, 1318, 1323, 1345.8, 1402, 1431, 1442, 1503, 1523, 1634, 1636, 1732, 1758, 1902, 1934, 2074, 2077, 2165.6, 2178, 2180, 2214, 2220, 2223, 2241.7, 2241.8, 2242.7, 2242.8, 2256, 2256.2, 2258, 2259, 3101, 3107, 3113, 3132, 3145, 3166, 3178, 3192, 3222, 3281, 3288, 3293, 3317, 3322, 3341, 3363, 3377, 3378, 3385.1, 3402, 3410, 3431, 3438, 3442, 3461, 3473, 3515, 3552, 3601, 3605, 3609, 3645, 3647, 3685.1, 3686, 3761, 3773, 3780, 3791, 3804, and 3808, R.S. 14:32, 35.2, 39, 67.16, 67.21, 79.1, 93.3, 93.4, 107.1, and 202.1, R.S. 15:1503 and 1510, R.S. 17:407.2 and 1947, R.S. 18:106.1, 1303, and 1400.21, R.S. 21:51 and 52, R.S. 22:1001 and 1012, R.S. 23:322-324, 1017.1, 1226, 1823, 1829, 2061, and 3004, R.S. 25:33, R.S. 28:2, 22.10, 64, 475 - 477, 831, 854, 864, 874, 904, and 915, R.S. 29:403, 726, and 729, R.S. 32:295.1, 403.2, and 863.1, R.S. 33:1236, 1947, and 2411, R.S. 36:151 and 254, R.S. 37:752, 775, 776, 1360.64, 2363, and 3003, R.S. 38:2261, R.S. 39:302, 362, 1484, 1554, 1594, 1595.4, and 1952, R.S. 40:384, 442, 501, 1299.58, 1299.78.5, 1299.113, 1299.114, 1300.85, 1485.2, 1735, 1742, 1742.2, 1748, 2010.8, 2113.5, 2116, 2405.5, and 2471, R.S. 42:808, R.S. 46:51, 56, 151, 156, 230.1, 231.6, 541, 932, 1951-1957, 1959, 2200, 2201, 2203, 2251, 2253, 2256, and 2582, R.S. 47:34, 287.749, 305.69, 360, 463.51, 473.2, and 1061, R.S. 48:23 and 261, R.S. 49:148 and 148.1, R.S. 51:1402, 1407, 2303, 2312, and 2606, R.S. 56:104.1, 109, 302.1, and 1699, C.E. Art. 510, and Ch.C. Arts. 1404 and 1416.

New law changes the terms "the infirm" and "the infirmed" to "person who is infirm" and "person with an infirmity", as appropriate to the context, in the following sections and articles of existing law:

R.S. 14:35.2, 93.3-93.5, and 106, R.S. 15:334.4, 536, 537, 541, 571.3, and 571.34, R.S. 17:124, R.S. 28:22.7, R.S. 29:726, R.S. 37:961, R.S. 40:2142, R.S. 46:61 and 437.14, and C.Cr.P. Arts. 573.1, 648, and 814.

New law changes references to a person who "becomes disabled" to a person who "acquires a disability" in the following sections of existing law:

R.S. 11:202-204, 206-211, 213, 215, 218, 701, 768, 901.36, 1530, 1614, 1763, 1785, 1805, 1938, 1945, 2144, 2178, 2220, 2221, 2241.8, 2242.8, 2257, 2258, 3005.1, 3039.1, 3143, 3200, 3232, 3346, 3377, 3385.1, 3438, 3442, 3447, 3473, 3514, 3548, 3644, 3647, 3686, 3724, 3731, 3771, 3778, 3802, and 3805, and R.S. 42:808.

New law changes the term "certified as disabled" to "certified as having a disability" in the following sections of existing law:

R.S. 11:218, 701, 778, 783, 804, 805, 952.36, 1147, 1313, 1432, 1483, 1522, 1634, 1784, 1804, 1944, 1964, 1974, 2074, 2165.6, 2178, 2258, and 3041.

New law changes the terms "handicapped accessible" and "handicapped accessibility" to "accessible" and "accessibility", respectively, in the following sections of existing law:

R.S. 17:67, R.S. 40:1355, 1400, 1563, 1573.1, 1574.1, 1730.39, and 1730.66, R.S. 46:2584 and 2673, and R.S. 47:463.4.

New law changes the term "mobility-impaired person" to "person with a mobility impairment" in the following sections of existing law:

R.S. 40:1742 and 1742.2, R.S. 46:2584, R.S. 47:463.4, 463.4.1, 463.4.2, 463.5, 463.21, 490.4, and 492, and R.S. 56:302.3.

New law changes the terms "the mentally ill" and "mentally ill person" to "person with mental illness" in the following sections and articles of existing law:

R.S. 15:830 and 830.1, R.S. 28:2, 22.5, 22.7, 22.9, 22.10, 25.1, 50, 52, 55, 64, 146, 148, 172, 200, and 201, R.S. 36:251, R.S. 40:1299.52, 1300.361, 2009.21, 2010.8, 2013.2, 2013.3, 2017, 2142, 2405.5, and Ch.C. Arts. 681, 683, 781, 809, 837, 894, 895, 910, 916, 1402, 1404, 1405, 1416, 1417, 1420, 1451, 1465, and 1467-1469.

Repealed Provisions

New law deletes the following provisions of prior law:

- (1) Provisions relative to services for students originally enrolled prior to May 1, 1985, in the La. Special Education Center when it was called the La. School for Spastic Children which no longer apply to any student (R.S. 17:348(C)).
- (2) Provisions referring to an abolished task force and pilot program concerning supervision and monitoring of persons with mental illness in outpatient treatment programs (R.S. 28:211 and 213).
- (3) Provisions referring to the abolished Mental Health Research and Training Account (R.S. 40:2113.1).
- (4) Provisions relative to treatment and care of "inmates" of special schools, homes, and other therapeutic institutions which no longer exist (R.S. 46:981 and 982).
- (5) Provisions establishing a bureau for handicapped persons within DCFS (R.S. 46:2111 through 2114).
- (6) Provisions referring to the abolished Community Residential Development Fund and Community Residential Program which formerly supported group homes, supervised living facilities, and out-of-home respite care for persons with mental or physical disabilities (R.S. 46:2391 through 2397).
- (7) Provisions referring to an abolished program of community-based services for persons with disabilities, persons who are elderly, and persons with mental illness (R.S. 46:2681).

Effective Date

Effective upon signature of governor (June 23, 2014).

(Amends R.S. 4:163.1(D)(2)(d) and 715(B)(2), R.S. 6:747(A), R.S. 9:1613, 2799(A)(2) and (B)(1), 2799.3, the heading of Part V-A of Chapter 2 of Code Title XII of Code Book III of Title 9 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, and 3541.21(1) and (3), R.S. 11:202, 203(A) and (C), 204(A), 206, 207(A) and (B), 208-210, 211(A) and (B), 213(A), 215(A), 218(A), (C), and (D)(3), 293(C), 701(19), 768(D)(2), 778(A), (B), and (D), 783(G)(1)(a), (I)(1)(a), and (K)(1), 784(C)(2) and (E), 804, 805(A) and (B), 901.36, 901.37, 952.36, 1147(A) and (C)(1), 1151(D), 1151.1(B)(1), (C)(2), and (D)(1), 1313(A), (B)(intro. para.), and (C), 1318, 1323(B)(1), (C)(2), and (D)(1), 1345.8(B), 1402(5), 1431, 1432(A)(intro. para.), 1442, 1483(B), 1503(6), 1522(A)(1)(intro. para.) and (B)(intro. para.), 1523(G), 1530(K)(3), 1614(D), 1634(A) and (B)(intro. para.), 1636(B)(5), 1732(20), 1758(A) and (F), 1763(J)(2), 1784(intro. para.), 1785(A)(2), 1804(intro. para.), 1805(A)(1)(a), 1902(19), 1934(A) and (F), 1938(J)(4)(c), 1944(A)(intro. para.), 1945(A)(2), 1964(A)(intro. para.), 1974(A), 2074(A) and (B)(1)(intro. para.), 2077(A)(intro. para.) and (B)(intro. para.) and (2), 2144(K),

2165.6(A) and (B)(intro. para.), 2178(B)(intro. para.), (1)(b), and (3)(c) and (C)(1)(c)(iv)(aa), 2180(C)(2), 2214(A)(2)(e), 2220(A)(1)(g)(v) and (B)(2)(a)(ii), 2221(K)(4)(a) and (M), 2223(A)(1), 2241.7(A)(1), 2241.8(2)(a)(ii), 2242.7(A)(1), 2242.8(2)(a)(ii), 2256(B)(2)(a) and (3), 2256.2(A), 2257(K)(4), 2258(A), (B)(intro. para.) and (1)(c) and (d), (2)(a), and (C)-(E), 2259(A)(1), 3005.1(I)(2) and (J)(4), 3039.1(K)(4), 3041(B), 3101, 3107(5), 3113(6), 3132, 3143(1) and (2), 3145(D), 3166(A), 3178(C)(2), 3192, 3200(1) and (2), 3222, 3232(A), (B), and (C), 3281, 3288(B)(5), 3293(1), 3317(C)(5), 3322(B)(1)(a), 3341(A), 3346(3), 3363(A), 3377(A), 3378(A)(1)(g) and (2)(c), 3385.1(K)(6) and (7)(f), 3402, 3410(5), 3431, 3438(B)(4)(b) and (5)(b), 3442(1)-(4), 3447(C), 3461, 3473(1)-(4), 3514(A), 3515(B), 3516(C)(1) and (2), 3548(A), 3552(A) and (B), 3553(B)(2), 3601(A), 3605(A)(5), 3609(A), 3644, 3645(E), 3647(E) and (F), 3685.1(B)(2)(a) and (D), 3686(B)(1)(a) and (b), 3724(1)-(3), 3731(intro. para.) and (B), 3761, 3771(2)(a)(intro. para.), 3773, 3778(A), 3780, 3791, 3802(3) and (4), 3804(A), 3805, and 3808, R.S. 13:1278 and 3881(A)(8), R.S. 14:32(D)(3), 35.2(A)(intro. para.), (B), and (C), 39(D)(3), 45(A)(3), 67.16(A)(1), (C)(1)(b), (2)(b), (3)(b), and (4)(b), 67.21(A)-(D), 79.1(A)(2), 89.1(A)(4), the heading of Subpart B(3) of Part V of Chapter 1 of Title 14 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, 93.3(A)-(D) and (E)(1), 93.4, 93.5(A)(intro. para.) and (D), 106(D)(2)(intro. para.) and (d), 107.1(C)(2) and (3), 126.3(A), and 202.1(F)(4), R.S. 15:536(A), 537(A), 541(2)(m), 571.3(B)(3)(r), 571.34(A), 581, 830(A) and (B), 830.1(A), 1039, 1402(A), 1503(6) and (7), and 1510(C), R.S. 17:67(G), 124, 158(H)(2)(f), 240(A)(1) and (B)(2), 407.2, 421.4, 422.6(B), 1947(A)(1) and (2), and 3217.2(D), R.S. 18:106(C)(2)(b), 106.1(A)(intro. para.), 564(D)(1)(a)(ii) and (2)(a)(ii) and (E), 1303(I)(intro. para.) and (1)(a), 1309.3(D)(1)(a)(ii) and (E), and 1400.21(B)(4), R.S. 21:51(C) and 52(A) and (B), R.S. 22:941(B)(7), 1000(A)(1)(a)(vi)(bb)(IV) and (2)(a) and (b)(iv), 1001(B), 1003(A)(2)(d), 1012(B), 1097(B), 1242(6), and 1288(B), R.S. 23:251(A)(3), 322(3), (5), (6), (8), and (9)(intro. para.), 323(A), (B)(1)-(7), (C)(2), and (D)(1) and (2), 324(A), 1017.1(5), 1226(B)(1)(intro. para.) and (C)(1)(intro. para.), 1371.1(intro. para.), (5), and (6), 1378(F)(34)(intro. para.), (a), and (c), 1472(12)(F)(IV), 1823(4)(e), 1829(G), 2061 (intro. para.) and (10), and 3004(A)(1), R.S. 25:33(B)(4), R.S. 28:2(14) and (20), 22.5, 22.7(A), 22.9, 22.10, 25.1(C)(1)(a)(v), 50(1) and (3), 52(B) and (G), 55(G), 64(B)-(G), 146, 148, 172(A), the heading of Part VIII of Chapter 1 of Title 28 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, 200-205, 215.5(B)(5), the heading of Chapter 5 of Title 28 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, 475, 476, 477(1) and (3)(a)(intro. para.) and (b), 478(A), 831(A)(intro. para.), (2), (3), (C)(1)(a) and (b)(i)-(iii), (E), and (F)(1), (4), and (5), 854(A)(2) and (3), 864(A)(2) and (3), 874(A)(2) and (3), 904(A)(2) and (3), and 915(A)(2), R.S. 29:403(8), 726(E)(17)(a) and (20)(a)(i) and (iii)(aa), and 729(E)(13)(a)(i) and (iii)(aa), R.S. 32:295.1(D)(1), (2)(a), and (3)(a), 351(A)(2), 401(intro. para.) and (9), 403.2, and 863.1(C)(7), R.S. 33:1236(42), 1947(C)(2), 2411, 4720.62(C), 4720.112(C), and 4720.138(C), R.S. 36:151(B), 251(B), and 254(A)(10)(c) and (h), (B)(9), and (E)(1), R.S. 37:752(9)(a), (c)(ii), and (d)(ii), 775(A)(10), 776(A)(9)(b) and (10)(b), 961(2), 1360.64(C)(1), 2363(C)(1), and 3003, R.S. 38:2261(A), (B), (E)(2), (3)(intro. para.) and (a), (4), (5), and (7), R.S. 39:302, 362(B)(3)(a)(iii) and (4)(a) and (F), 1484(B)(1)(intro. para.) and (h), (2)(c), and (5)(intro. para.) and (a), 1494.1(A)(3), 1554(D)(3), 1594(I)(1), 1595.4(A) and (E)(2), (3)(intro. para.) and (a), (4), (5), and (7), and 1952(14)(intro. para.) and (e), R.S. 40:5(18), 384(11), 442(2), 501(A)(2), 1299.27(A), (B)(intro. para.) and (2), and (C), 1299.52, 1299.58(A)(intro. para.), (1), and (3), 1299.78.5(A)(1) and (2), 1299.113(A)(4), 1299.114(9), 1299.118(3), 1299.119(A), 1300.85(C), 1300.361(B)(intro. para.), 1355(B), 1379.3(C)(5), 1400(A) and (C)-(F), 1472.3(E)(2)(d), 1485.2(3), 1563(C)(6), 1573.1(A), 1574.1(A)(13)(a), 1730.39(B), 1730.66(A), 1735, 1742(A)(1), (3), and (4)(a), (B)(1), (2)(c), and (6), and (C), 1742.1, 1742.2(A)(1), (3) and (4) and (B)(1), the heading of Part V-A of Chapter 8 of Title 40 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, 1748(A), 2009.21, 2009.25(F)(12), 2010.8(A)(2)(b)(v) and (vi), 2013(6), 2013.2, 2013.3, 2017(A)(1), (2), and (4), 2102(A)(3), 2113.5, 2116(B)(1) and (G), 2142(A), 2405.5(A) and (B)(1) and (2)(c)-(f), and 2471, R.S. 42:808(E), R.S. 46:51(8) and (13), 53(B), 56(B)(2) and (H)(1), 61(A)(3), the heading of Subpart A of Part I of Chapter 3 of Title 46 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, 151, 156(A) and (C), 230.1(A), 231.6(B), 437.14(A)(7), the heading of Part III of Chapter 4 of Title 46 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, 541, 932(9) and (10), 1053(E), 1407(B)(1)(e)(intro. para.), 1951, 1952(intro. para.), (1), and (3), 1953(A), (B)(intro. para.), (C), and (D), 1954, 1955, 1956(A), 1957, 1959, the heading of Chapter 29 of Title 46 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, the heading of 2200, 2201, 2203, the heading of Chapter 30 of Title 46 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, 2251, 2252(B), 2253(1), (2), (4), and (5), 2254(A), (F)(1), (2), (4), and (5), (G)(intro. para.), (I), and (J), 2255, 2256(A) and (B), 2582(1), (2), (4), and (6), 2584(intro. para.), (4), and (5), and 2673(C)(5), R.S. 47:34(C)(2)(intro. para.) and (d)(ii), 44.1(B), 79(A)(2) and (B)(5), 287.749(C)(2)(intro. para.) and (d)(ii), 305.38, 305.69(B)(2) and (3), 337.9(D)(17), 360(G), 463.4(A)(1), (2), (4), and (6), (B)(1), (2), (3)(a), (4)(a) and

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