

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 768

BY REPRESENTATIVE LAFONTA

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS: Provides with respect to the Louisiana Council on the Provision of Governmental Services to Latin Americans

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 36:4(AA) and 917 and R.S. 49:1222 and 1223, relative to the  
3 Latino Commission; to change the name of the council; to provide relative to its  
4 powers and duties; to otherwise provide with respect to its purpose and operations;  
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 49:1222 and 1223 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as  
8 follows:

9 CHAPTER 19. ~~LOUISIANA COUNCIL ON THE PROVISION OF~~  
10 ~~GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES TO LATIN AMERICANS~~ LATINO  
11 COMMISSION

12 \* \* \*

13 §1222. ~~Louisiana Council on the Provision of Governmental Services to Latin~~  
14 ~~Americans~~ Latino Commission; creation; domicile; membership

15 A. ~~The Louisiana Council on the Provision of Governmental Services to~~  
16 ~~Latin Americans~~ The Latino Commission, hereafter referred to in this Chapter as the  
17 "~~council~~ commission", is hereby established in the executive branch of state  
18 government in the office of the governor. The ~~council~~ commission is hereby  
19 declared to be a body corporate and public, exercising public and essential  
20 governmental functions. The domicile of the ~~council~~ commission shall be in the city  
21 of New Orleans.

1           B. The ~~council~~ commission shall be comprised of members as provided in  
2           this Subsection:

- 3           (1) The president of the Senate shall appoint two members.  
4           (2) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members.  
5           (3) The governor shall appoint one member.  
6           (4) The Louisiana Municipal Association shall appoint one member.  
7           (5) The Police Jury Association of Louisiana shall appoint one member.  
8           (6) Each of the following or his designee shall be a member:  
9           (a) The executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission.  
10          (b) The secretary of the Department of Social Services.  
11          (c) The secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.  
12          (7) Puentes New Orleans shall appoint three members.  
13          (8) The following shall each appoint one member:  
14          (a) Catholic Charities of New Orleans.  
15          (b) The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana.  
16          (c) The Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.  
17          (d) The Latino Forum.  
18          (e) Casa Argentina of New Orleans.  
19          (f) The publisher of "El Tiempo New Orleans".  
20          (g) The general manager of KGLA TV.  
21          (h) The Loyola School of Law Workplace Justice Project.  
22          (i) The Hispanic Apostolate of Shreveport.  
23          (j) The Hispanic Lawyers Association.  
24          (k) WFNO La Fabulosa 830-AM Radio.  
25          (l) The Latin American Civic Association of Louisiana.  
26          (m) The Hispanic Lawyers Association of Louisiana, Inc.  
27          (n) The Spanish American Business Association.  
28          (o) Asociacion Nicaraguense de Luisiana.  
29          (p) Unidad Hispanoamericana.

1 (q) The Louisiana Housing Finance Agency.

2 (r) The Louisiana AFL-CIO.

3 C. Members of the ~~council~~ commission shall be residents of this state. Each  
4 member shall be a member of a registered business organization in this state and  
5 actively engaging in business in this state as of the date of appointment.

6 D. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

7 E. The ~~council~~ commission shall annually elect a chairman and a vice  
8 chairman and other officers as it deems appropriate from among its members. The  
9 commission may appoint subcommittees in accordance with its bylaws.

10 F. The ~~council~~ commission shall ~~meet~~ hold regular meetings at least  
11 quarterly and ~~may meet~~ shall hold special meetings upon the call of the chairman or  
12 any three members.

13 G. Appointed members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing  
14 authority.

15 H. The governor shall provide staff and administrative support to the ~~council~~  
16 commission.

17 §1223. Powers and duties

18 A. The ~~council~~ commission shall identify obstacles to the effective delivery  
19 of governmental services by all service providers at all levels of government to ~~Latin~~  
20 Latino Americans, and the ~~council~~ commission shall propose methods for removing  
21 those obstacles from such delivery of services and submit its proposals to the  
22 appropriate governmental entity or entities. To this end the ~~council~~ commission  
23 shall:

24 (1) Conduct public hearings at which it takes testimony from service  
25 providers, citizens, and advocates who can speak to the needs of the ~~Latin~~ Latino  
26 American community. Such public hearings shall be held at various locations  
27 around the state so as to facilitate the broadest possible participation by recipients  
28 and potential recipients of governmental services.

1 (2) Request of and receive from staff assigned to it research of available data  
2 and information pertinent to the delivery of governmental services to ~~Latin~~ Latino  
3 Americans, which research may include investigation of efforts in other states to  
4 deliver services to foreign born populations.

5 (3) Formally adopt specific recommendations for changes in the allocation  
6 of funds and spending, statutory law, administrative rules, and agency policy,  
7 procedure, and practice and submit such specific recommendations to the appropriate  
8 governmental entity or entities. If the recommendation is made to any entity other  
9 than the legislature, a copy thereof shall also be submitted to the presiding officers  
10 of the legislature each of whom shall forward the copy to the standing committee  
11 or committees of his respective house which have jurisdiction over the issue or  
12 entity.

13 B. The ~~council~~ commission may solicit, accept, and expend funds for the  
14 purposes provided in this Section.

15 C. The commission may support the state's celebration of its bicentennial of  
16 statehood by holding or participating in programs and events through which it can  
17 increase public awareness of the significance of Latino American heritage, culture,  
18 and contributions throughout the state's history.

19 Section 2. R.S. 36:4(AA) and 917 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as  
20 follows:

21 §4. Structure of executive branch of state government

22 \* \* \*

23 AA. The ~~Louisiana Council on the Provision of Governmental Services to~~  
24 ~~Latin Americans~~ Latino Commission(R.S. 49:1221 et seq.) is hereby placed within  
25 the office of the governor and shall exercise its powers, duties, functions, and  
26 responsibilities as provided in R.S. 36:917.

27 \* \* \*

1           §917. Transfer, ~~Louisiana Council on the Provision of Governmental Services to~~  
 2                           ~~Latin Americans~~ Latino Commission  
 3                           The ~~Louisiana Council on the Provision of Governmental Services to Latin~~  
 4           ~~Americans~~ Latino Commission is placed within the office of the governor and shall  
 5           exercise its powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities as provided in this Part.  
 6           In addition the board may solicit, receive, and expend funds as authorized by law.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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LaFonta

HB No. 768

**Abstract:** Changes the name of the La. Council on the Provision of Governmental Services to Latin Americans. Authorizes it to participate in the state's celebration of its bicentennial.

Present law creates the La. Council on the Provision of Governmental Services to Latin Americans. Proposed law changes the name of the council to the Latino Commission.

Present law provides for the composition of the council, which includes two members appointed by the president of the Senate, two members appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one member appointed by each of the following: the governor, the La. Municipal Association, and the Police Jury Association of La. Provides for numerous private groups and entities to designate members. Requires that the council identify obstacles to the effective delivery of governmental services by all service providers at all levels of government to Latino Americans and propose methods for removing those obstacles from such delivery of services and submit its proposals to the appropriate governmental entity or entities.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally authorizes the commission to support the state's celebration of its bicentennial of statehood by holding or participating in programs and events through which it can increase public awareness of the significance of Latino American heritage, culture, and contributions throughout the state's history.

Present law provides for annual election of a chairman and a vice chairman. Proposed law authorizes the election of additional officers. Authorizes the commission to appoint subcommittees in accordance with its bylaws.

Present law requires the council to meet at least quarterly upon the call of the chairman or any three members. Proposed law requires regular meetings quarterly and authorizes special meetings upon the call of the chairman or any three members.

(Amends R.S. 36:4(AA) and 917 and R.S. 49:1222 and 1223)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Changed the proposed new name of the entity from La. Latin American Council to the Latino Commission.