

Existing law provides for the Board of Pardons which consists of five members, appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate, and one ex officio member. Existing law further provides for the duties, functions, and powers of the Board of Pardons.

New law provides that each member of the Board of Pardons shall have at least five years actual experience in the field of penology, corrections, law enforcement, sociology, law, education, social work, medicine, or a combination thereof. Provides an exception to new law requirements for any person serving as a member of the board on Aug. 1, 2012.

Prior law provided for the Board of Parole which consisted of seven members, appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate, and one ex officio member. Prior law also provided for the qualifications, salaries, powers, duties, functions, and training requirements of the Board of Parole, and further provided the procedures by which the Board of Parole shall function and the procedures the board shall follow when deciding whether to grant or deny parole.

New law merges the duties, functions, powers, and training requirements of the Board of Parole into the Board of Pardons, creates a committee on parole which shall be part of existing law Board of Pardons, and further provides as follows:

- (1) Provides that the committee on parole shall consist of the following persons:
 - (a) The five members of the Board of Pardons.
 - (b) Two at-large appointees, appointed by the governor, who shall only serve as members of the committee on parole and shall not serve as a member of the Board of Pardons.
- (2) Provides that the two at-large appointees shall possess at least five-years experience in the field of penology, corrections, law enforcement, sociology, law, education, social work, medicine, or a combination thereof. Provides an exception to new law requirements for any member serving as a member of the board on Aug. 1, 2012.
- (3) Provides for the compensation of the chairman, vice chairman, and members of the Board of Pardons and the two at-large appointees of the committee on parole.
- (4) Provides for the transfer of all powers, duties, functions, responsibilities, and obligations of prior law Board of Parole to new law committee on parole who shall exercise and perform each.
- (5) Deletes provision which prohibits each member from engaging in any other business or profession or holding any other public office.
- (6) Provides that all administrative rules and regulations adopted by prior law Board of Parole shall be considered valid and remain in effect until amended or repealed by new law committee on parole which shall adopt the rules necessary to implement new law.
- (7) Provides for the transfer of any pending and unfinished business of prior law Board of Parole to new law committee on parole.
- (8) Provides that all references to prior law Board of Parole shall be deemed to refer to new law committee on parole and provides that all legal proceedings shall be continued in the name of the committee on parole without the necessity for amendment of any document.
- (9) Provides that new law committee on parole shall be the successor in every way to prior law Board of Parole, including all of the obligations and debts thereof.
- (10) Directs the La. State Law Institute to make technical changes to statutory laws as necessary to reflect the name changes provided for in new law.

- (11) Requires each member of the Board of Pardons to file an annual financial statement pursuant to existing law.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Amends R.S. 15:572.1(A)(1) and 574.2(A), (B), (C)(1), (2)(intro. para.), and (3), (D)(intro. para.), (4), (9), and (11), (E), (F)(1)(intro. para.), (G), and (H)(1) and (2); Adds R.S. 42:1124.2(A)(7); Repeals R.S. 15:572.2)