

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 27, 2009

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OFFICE**

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**STUDENTS URGED TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP ON LEGISLATIVE YOUTH
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

OPPORTUNITY TO IMPACT STATE POLICY AFFECTING LOUISIANA'S YOUTH

The Legislative Youth Advisory Council, an appointed body composed entirely of students and overseen by the Louisiana Commission on Civic Education, is seeking applications for membership now in its second year which gives youth a "voice" on an array of issues affecting young people today.

The purpose of the 21-member Legislative Youth Advisory Council is to facilitate the communication between youth and the legislature and gives students a unique opportunity to be involved in the workings of government. Students who are selected to serve will have the opportunity to study and address issues of importance to youth, including education, employment, strategies to increase youth participation in local and state government, safe environments for youth, substance abuse, underage drinking, emotional and physical health, poverty, litter and environmental control, driver's licenses, and youth access to state and local services.

Members and alternates will be appointed from each of the seven congressional districts (14 members) and up to seven (7) additional youth members will have an opportunity to be designated by and represent a state level, school-sponsored or community service club or organization which has a civic mission. Youth members must be between the ages of fourteen and nineteen, be enrolled in a public or private high school; or be participating in a home study program; or in a BESE-approved GED skills program.

Applications must include a recommendation by a school administrator, teacher, representative of an approved home study program or a GED skills program, or by a representative of a civic state level, school or community service club or organization.

Application packets and instructions are available on-line at <http://civiced.louisiana.gov>.

The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, April 30, 2009.

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