

*People First of Louisiana*

Proposed By-law Revisions  
Proposed at Board of Director Meeting 12/10/2010  
To Be Voted On By People First of Louisiana Membership

The red writing indicates what the by-law will state if the proposed revision is made.

*The writing in italics explains why the proposal was made.*

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**Article 1: Name, Territory, and Purpose**

- Section 1.1            No change
- Section 1.2            No change
- Section 1.3            No change

**Article 2: Membership**

- Section 2.1            No change
- Section 2.2            Strike out "Self-advocate:            \$10.00"  
                                 Insert "Self-advocate:            no fee"  
                                 ■ **Self-advocate:            no fee**  
                                 ✓ *Self-advocates are not required to pay dues.*  
  
                                 Strike out "Chapter:            \$15.00"  
                                 ■  
                                 ✓ *Chapters no longer join People First of Louisiana (PF).*

**Article 3: Chapter Membership**

- Section 3.1            Strike out entire section
- Section 3.2            Strike out entire section
- Section 3.3            Strike out entire section
- Section 3.4            Strike out entire section  
                                 ■  
                                 ✓ *Chapters no longer join PF.*

**Article 4: Resignation**

- Section 4.1:            Strike out "chapter"  
                                 ■ **Any voting individual may resign at any time.**  
                                 ✓ *Chapters no longer join PF; so, chapters will not resign.*
- Section 4.2:            No change

**Article 5: Member Removal or Suspension**

- Section 5.1            No change
- Section 5.2            Strike out " - Non-payment of dues"  
                                 ■  
                                 ✓ *Self-advocates are not required to pay dues.*

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**Article 6: Executive Committee**

Strike out "There will be no more than two (2) representatives per region"

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- ✓ *There are no longer 2 representatives per region.*

**Article 7: Qualifications, Duties, Election, Term of Office/Term Limit and Vacancy of Executive Officers**

- Section 7.1 no change
- Section 7.2 no change
- Section 7.3 Strike out "during the annual meeting voted on by the general membership."  
Insert "will be by the Board of Directors."
  - **Election of executive officers will be by the Board of Directors.**
  - ✓ *The Board of Directors will select the executive officers from among themselves.*
- Section 7.4 no change
- Section 7.5 no change

**Article 8: Qualifications, Position, Responsibilities, Elections, Term of Office/Term Limit, and Vacancy of Board Members**

- Section 8.1 no change
- Section 8.2 Strike entire section  
Insert "Position and Responsibilities"

"Position:

- People First of Louisiana should be seen as the leaders of self-advocacy activities and the disability movement in the state.
- The activities of People First of Louisiana are guided by the board of directors.
- The ultimate goal of the board of directors is to build self-advocacy across the state.

Responsibilities:

- Provide leadership for other People First of Louisiana members and other people with disabilities in Louisiana

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**Article 8 con't**

- Section 8.2 con't
  - Determine what issues are important for people with disabilities in Louisiana and how to advocate for/against those issues. This requires obtaining input from people with disabilities and supporters in your region.
  - Lead advocacy activities
  - Assist others in your region to become more effective self-advocates
  - Attend 4 meetings/trainings per year. You will receive travel reimbursement.
  - Participate in monthly conference calls
  - Conduct 3 trainings for local chapters in your region. You will receive travel reimbursement.  
*We will help your arrange any accommodations you need to do this."*

Position:

- People First of Louisiana should be seen as the leaders of self-advocacy activities and the disability movement in the state.
- The activities of People First of Louisiana are guided by the board of directors.
- The ultimate goal of the board of directors is to build self-advocacy across the state.

Responsibilities:

- Provide leadership for other People First of Louisiana members and other people with disabilities in Louisiana
- Determine what issues are important for people with disabilities in Louisiana and how to advocate for/against those issues. This requires obtaining input from people with disabilities and supporters in your region.
- Lead advocacy activities
- Assist others in your region to become more effective self-advocates
- Attend 4 meetings/trainings per year. You will receive travel reimbursement.
- Participate in monthly conference calls
- Conduct 3 trainings for local chapters in your region. You will receive travel reimbursement.  
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✓ *Lists the duties of the board members*

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Section 8.3

Strike out entire section

Insert "Candidates for the Board of Directors will complete and submit an application. Selection of board members will be made by a selection committee comprised of a representative of People First of Louisiana (PF of LA), the executive director PF of LA, the executive director of The Arc of Louisiana, a representative of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, and a representative of a disability or advocacy organization. One representative will be selected from each region. In addition, two (2) "at-large" representatives will be selected.

These two

at-large representatives may reside anywhere in the state of Louisiana and will represent the state at-large."

- *Candidates for the Board of Directors will complete and submit an application. Selection of board members will be made by a selection committee comprised of a representative of People First of Louisiana (PF of LA), the executive director PF of LA, the executive director of The Arc of Louisiana, a representative of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, and a representative of a disability or advocacy organization. One representative will be selected from each region. In addition, two (2) "at-large" representatives will be selected. These two at-large representatives may reside anywhere in the state of Louisiana and will represent the state at-large."*

✓ *Members of PF of LA may apply for a position Selection of the Board of Directors will be made by a selection committee.*

1. Section 8.4

no change

2. Section 8.5

Strike out entire section

Insert "Vacancies in the position of representatives will be filled by the Board of Directors. Extensive advertising will be conducted in the region of the vacancy or in the entire state if the vacancy is in an at-large position. Advertising will be conducted for at least thirty (30) days before a decision is made by the Board of Directors.

If the vacancy results in a member completing less than one half of the current term, it does not count as a term when figuring term limits. That member may serve two (2) complete terms.

If the vacancy results in a member completing more than one half of the current term, it does count as a term when figuring term limits. That member may complete the current term and serve an additional (one) term."

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- ✓ *The selection of a representative to complete a term can be made by the Board of Directors. By figuring the term limits like this, all board member can serve about the same length of time.*

**Article 9: Executive Committee/Board Member Removal or Suspension**

- Section 9.1 no change
- Section 9.2 no change

**Article 10: Meetings**

- Section 10.1 no change
- Section 10.2 no change
- Section 10.3 no change
- Section 10.4 no change

**Article 11: Standing Committees (ongoing)**

- Section 11.1 no change
- Section 11.2 no change
- Section 11.3 no change

**Article 12: Special Committees (limited time)**

- Section 12.1 no change
- Section 12.2 no change

**Article 13: Budget Development, Approval, Monitoring, Auditing and Reporting**

- Section 13.1 no change

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- Section 13.2           no change
- Section 13.3           no change
- Section 13.4           no change
  
- Section 13.5           no change

**Article 14: Parliamentary Authority**  
No change

**Article 15: Amendment of By-laws**

- Section 15.1           no change
- Section 15.2           Strike out "October 2009"  
Insert "March 2011"
  - **These by-laws were amended March 2011.**
  - ✓ *Changes the date of amendment. (March 2011 is the anticipated date of the upcoming annual meeting). The proposed by-laws will be voted on at the annual meeting.*