



May 20, 2019

Sandee Winchell, Executive Director
Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
Post Office Box 3455
626 Main Street, Suite A
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3455

Dear Ms. Winchell,

After reviewing your recently submitted FFY 2019 State Plan Update, I am writing to encourage the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (LA DDC) to continue to work towards full compliance with the membership requirements as outlined in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act).

The Council demonstrates compliance with regard to regional representation and required number of agency members, individuals with ID/DD, and family members appointed to the Council. Additionally, the "Policies and Procedures Manual and Bylaws", provided on the Council website, outline the procedural steps in making Council member recommendations for future appointments, to align with the DD Act requirements. Section 125 (b)(1)(C) of the DD Act, (42 USC 15025) states, in part, that "...the membership of the Council shall be geographically representative of the State and reflect the diversity of the State with respect to race and ethnicity." As membership rotates, I encourage the Council to continue engaging with the appointment's office to ensure the gender, racial and ethnic diversity of the Council is fully in line with the DD Act expectations. This effort should be reflected in your next State Plan for FFY 2020.

We are grateful for the work that the LA DDC is doing, and we thank you for submitting your FFY 2019 State Plan, FFY 2019, FFY 2020, and FFY 2021 Annual Work Plans in a timely manner. Please let us know should you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teresa Nguyen", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Teresa Nguyen
Program Specialist
Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities