

Louisiana Streamlining Commission

Suggested Recommendations to Advisory Committee Chairmen

Preamble:

The following comments on this cover sheet have been prepared at the Mercatus Center by Hon. Maurice McTigue. The purpose of the analysis was to identify issues that the committee might pursue and finally develop into recommendations to the full commission.

- The suggested recommendations are based on very limited information and the committee's local knowledge may determine that the suggestions are not viable. In that case the Committee should discard the suggested recommendation.
- If the Committee thinks the suggestion has merit then they should refer it to officials for their analysis.
- Some of our suggestions may be recommending a practice that is already in place, in which case the recommendation may be put aside or may be worded to endorse that practice or to extend it further than is the current practice.

Louisiana National Guard Military Affairs

- The core business of the department is to protect the people of Louisiana when called upon to respond.
- The measures should be the level of preparedness – response time.
- The other essential measure is capability – trained personnel capable of responding effectively to whatever emergency requires their deployment.
- The annual cost appears to be \$6861 per trained responder per annum.

Savings: Total Budget \$65.434 million mix of State & Federal Funds

- No immediate savings identified.

Louisiana National Guard Educational Programs:

- These are programs targeted at “at risk youth” and those with failing grades in school.
- Why are these programs with the National Guard? The National Guards mission is not education, and the programs appear more suited for Community Colleges or other educational institutions?
- The cost per trainee should be benchmarked against similar programs funded by the state.
- The Challenge Program cost \$14,318 per graduate.
- Job Challenge costs \$5000 per graduate.
- The Starbase Program costs \$312 per trainee.

Savings: Total Budget \$17 million.

- The program results seem good. The programs are an odd fit with a military organization.

- The cost per trainee seems high.
- No savings immediately evident unless the programs were moved to education.

Department Name: Louisiana National Guard Military Affairs

Core Business of Department: Protect the citizens of Louisiana through emergency preparedness, response, and recovery and provide an alternative residential multi – phased education training program for Louisiana at-risk youth.

Program Name: Military Affairs

Outcome addressed by this program: Citizens receive a synchronized statewide emergency capability that is prepared and responsive to react to any natural and manmade disaster or hazard that results in the safety and well being of every citizen.

How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program: At any given time all citizens are directly impacted by our ability to support, respond and recovery for all local, state, and federal emergencies when they occur.

Amount of money expended on Military Affairs in the last fiscal year:

State General	\$17,355,464.00
Self Generated	\$5,281,637.09
IAT (TF Gator)	\$12,137,894.64
Federal Funds	
<i>Agreements</i>	\$20,048,923.87
<i>Prior Yr Seed Repayment</i>	-\$2,952,574.07
<i>Current Yr Seed</i>	\$2,115,082.24
Statutory Dedication	
V29 (SERF) STAD	\$5,444,714.00
V25 (OVERCOL)	<u>\$6,003,151.00</u>
	<u>\$65,434,292.77</u>

Measures used to determine success:

- Percent of administrative and support costs compared to total costs
- Percent of Supported agency requests that are successfully completed
- All alerted personnel/units respond to state active duty
 - Number of facilities, ranges, and training areas available to support operations
- Number of military and civilian personnel receiving training using LANG infrastructure
- Percent of personnel graduating from Career enhancement / progression training programs

- Reduce underutilized fleet
- Reduce reportable property losses
- Reduce lost time accidents
- Reduce Workers' Compensation claims
- Number of certified force protection personnel that meet Departments of Homeland Security and Defense guidelines
- Increase utilization of advanced technology devices
- Reaction Force reports to emergency site within 4 hours

Level of success during each of the last three years:

Measure	Target	FY 07	FY08	FY09
Assigned strength as a percentage of authorized strength	100%	95.7%	98.5%	100.5%
Authorized strength	10124	9152	9300	9536
Percentage of unit participation and completion of approved volunteer Community Action Projects	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of projects completed	150	161	92	54
Liaison Officer reports to Emergency Operation Center within 1 hour of notification	1	1	1	1
Reaction Force Advance reports to emergency site within 1 hour of notification	1	1	1	1
Reaction Force reports to emergency site within 4 hours	4	4	4	4
All units respond to state active duty within 4 hours.	4	4	4	4

Societal Issue:

The societal issue addressed by the Military Affairs Program is that Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security continues to improve by demonstrating efficiency and competency, which inspires confidence in Louisiana's citizens. Our motto is "Protect What Matters!"

Department Name: Louisiana National Guard Education Programs

Core business: The Louisiana National Guard Education Programs provides educational opportunities for at-risk youth through the Youth Challenge Program, the Job Challenge Program and the Starbase Program.

Program Name: Louisiana National Guard Youth Challenge Program

Outcome addressed by this program: The Youth Challenge program is a residential multi-phased intervention program, targeting high school drop-outs between the ages of 16 and 19 years of age. The function of the program is to intervene in and reclaim the lives of at-risk youth and produce program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline necessary to succeed as adults.

How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program: Over 1,100 students graduate from the program every year. They and their families are obviously affected by the program.

How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year? \$15,750,000.

Measure used to determine success: Success is measured in several ways. One way is the percentage of students who complete and graduate from the residential phase. Other measures of success include average grade level increase on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE), the

percentage of students who obtain their GED, and the percentage of students with positive placement during the post-residential phase.

Level of success during each of the last three years: In the last three years the Youth Challenge Program has exceeded its graduation targets. Students have increased their TABE average by over 2.5 grade levels. 50% of the students passed the GED while in the residential phase and over 80% of the graduates had positive placements during the post-residential phase.

The societal issue addressed by this program is getting better, remaining static or deteriorating: Through the efforts of many different entities the drop-out rate in Louisiana is decreasing.

Program Name: Job Challenge

Outcome addressed by this program: The Job Challenge program trains selected Youth Challenge graduates in skilled trades that allow them placement opportunities after graduation from the Job Challenge Program. This 90 day residential course offers training in heavy equipment operations, welding, and culinary arts.

How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program: 200 graduates from the program each year and their families are affected by this program. Potential employers are also affected.

How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year? \$1 Million

Measures used to determine success: Success is measured by the percentage of students who are placed in jobs after graduation.

Level of success during each of the last three years: In the last three years about 75% of the students that graduate are placed within three months of graduation.

The societal issue addressed by this program is getting better, remaining static or deteriorating. The societal issue is addressed by this program is the unskilled labor force. Through the efforts of Job Challenge some at-risk students have improved their marketable job skills.

Program Name: Starbase Program

Outcome addressed by this program: Starbase is a highly interactive academic enrichment program for fifth grade students considered at risk in the areas of math, science, and technology.

How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program:

Over 800 students and their families are affected by the program.

How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year? \$250,000

Measure used to determine success: Success is measured in the percentage of students who increase their scores by 20% on a knowledge assessment.

Level of success during each of the last three years: Over 90% of the students increase their scores by 20% on knowledge assessments.

The societal issue addressed by this program is getting better, remaining static or deteriorating: The societal issue addressed by this program is at-risk students and low academic performance and interest in the areas of math, science and technology. Through the efforts of Starbase the students we reach have shown a greater knowledge base and interest thus improving the societal issue.