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DHS 4450 (N-05-09)
DRS Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Advisory Council
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MISSION

The mission of the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Advisory Council is to make recommendations to the governor for developing and administering a comprehensive State Plan to provide services for individuals with brain or spinal cord injuries and to prevent new injuries from occurring.

The Council shall:

Make recommendations to the Governor for developing and administering a State plan to provide services for individuals with brain or spinal cord injuries;

Promote meetings and programs for the discussion of reducing the debilitating effects of brain or spinal cord injuries;

Disseminate information in cooperation with any other department, agency or entity on the prevention, evaluation, care, treatment and rehabilitation of persons affected by brain or spinal cord injuries;

Study and review current prevention, evaluation, care, treatment and rehabilitation technologies and recommend appropriate preparation, training, retraining and distribution of manpower and resources in the provision of services to individuals with brain or spinal cord injuries through private and public residential facilities, day programs and other specialized services;

Recommend specific methods, means and procedures which should be adopted to improve and upgrade the State's service delivery system;

Be the advisory board for purposes of federal programs regarding traumatic brain injury.

Membership

The Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Advisory Council shall consist of 29 members, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and shall include:

- 2 neurosurgeons;
- 2 orthopedic surgeons;
- 2 rehabilitation specialists, one of whom shall be a registered nurse;
- 4 persons with brain injuries or family members of persons with brain injuries;
- 4 persons with spinal cord injuries or family members of persons with spinal cord injuries;
- 4 members-at-large
  - a representative of an Illinois college or university;
  - and a representative of health institutions or private industry.

These members shall not serve more than 2 consecutive 3-year terms.

The Governor shall also appoint one individual from each of the following entities to the Council as ex-officio members:

- The unit of the Department of Human Services that is responsible for the administration of the vocational rehabilitation program;
- Another unit within the Department of Human Services that provides services to individuals with disabilities;
- The State Board of Education;
- The Department of Public Health;
- The Department of Insurance;
- The Department of Healthcare and Family Services;
- The Division of Specialized Care for Children of the University of Illinois;
- The Statewide Independent Living Council;
- and The State Rehabilitation Advisory Council.

Ex-officio members are not subject to the limit of 2 consecutive 3-year terms and shall be conditioned on their employment with their respective agencies.

In accordance with Public Act 86-510, the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Advisory Council was established in 1989.