WHEREAS, according to the 2013 American Community Survey, Louisiana ranks twenty-fifth in the United States in population, and in 2016 ranks thirteenth in the nation in alcohol-impaired fatalities;

WHEREAS, in 2016, thirty percent of Louisiana’s traffic fatalities resulted from alcohol-impaired driving, as compared to the national average of twenty-eight percent;

WHEREAS, in 2017, Louisiana automobile owners pay high premiums for motor vehicle liability insurance, ranking second highest in the nation in costs for insurance, with an average premium of $1,921.00.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: The Governor’s Task Force on DWI (hereafter “Task Force”) is reestablished within the executive department, Office of the Governor, Office of Drug Policy.

SECTION 2: The duties of the Task Force shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

A. Addressing the high incidence of driving while intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, data collection and analysis on DWI conviction rates, the prevalence of drivers refusing to submit to tests as directed by law enforcement and strategies to reduce such incidences, and the frequency of arrest, prosecution, and conviction of drug-impaired drivers;

B. Identifying and implementing effective DWI countermeasures, such as substance abuse assessment/treatment, electronic monitoring, DWI offender monitoring, alcohol interlocks, sanctions, etc., in order to reduce impaired driving;

C. Analyzing data trends related to alcohol and other drug-involved fatal or serious injury crashes;

D. Soliciting input and recommendations from all agencies, departments, commissions, boards, or offices which are involved in DWI enforcement, prevention, and countermeasures, particularly law enforcement officers at the state, parish, and local levels to aid in the implementation of the provisions of this Order; and

E. Acting in an advisory capacity to the Governor, Drug Policy Board, the Highway Safety Commission, the Alcohol and Tobacco Control Commission, Louisiana Department of Health-Office of Behavioral Health, and any other agency, department, commission, board, or office that is involved with DWI issues.
SECTION 3: By December 1, 2018 and annually thereafter, the Task Force shall submit a comprehensive written report to the Governor on the issues set forth in Section 2 of this Order.

SECTION 4: The Task Force shall be composed of a maximum of twenty (20) members who are selected as follows:

1. The attorney general, or the attorney general’s designee;

2. One (1) member of the Louisiana House of Representatives designated by the Speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives;

3. One (1) member of the Louisiana State Senate, designated by the President of the Louisiana Senate;

4. The commissioner of the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control, Department of Revenue, or the commissioner’s designee;

5. The commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, Office of Motor Vehicles, or the commissioner’s designee;

6. The executive director of the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission;

7. The assistant secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Behavioral Health, or the assistant secretary’s designee;

8. A representative of the Louisiana State Police, designated by the Superintendent of State Police;

9. The director of the Office of Drug Policy, Office of the Governor;

10. A representative of the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab designated by the commander of the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab;

11. The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, or the secretary’s designee;

12. The director of the Louisiana Property and Casualty Insurance Commission, or the director’s designee;

13. One member appointed by the governor selected from a list of three nominees submitted by the executive director of the Louisiana District Attorney’s Association;

14. One member appointed by the governor selected from a list of three nominees submitted by the executive director of the Louisiana Sheriffs’ Association;

15. One member appointed by the governor selected from a list of three nominees submitted by the president of the Municipal Police Officers Association;

16. A representative of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, designated by the state director of Mothers Against Drunk Driving;
17. A representative of the Louisiana Restaurant Association, designated by the president of the Louisiana Restaurant Association; and

18. Three (3) at-large members appointed by the governor

SECTION 5: The chair of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Governor from the membership of the Task Force. All other officers, if any, shall be elected by the Task Force from its membership.

SECTION 6: The Task Force shall meet at least two times per calendar year, and at the call of the chair.

SECTION 7: Task Force members shall not receive additional compensation or a per diem from the Office of the Governor for serving on the Task Force.

A Task Force member who is an employee or an elected public official of the State of Louisiana or a political subdivision thereof may seek reimbursement of travel expenses, in accordance with PPM 49, from his or her employing and/or elected department, agency and/or office.

A Task Force member who is also a member of the Louisiana Legislature may seek a per diem from the Louisiana State Senate or House of Representatives, as appropriate, for his or her attendance.

SECTION 8: Support staff, facilities, and resources for the Task Force shall be provided by the Office of the Governor, Office of Drug Policy and the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission.

SECTION 9: All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the State of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Task Force in implementing the provisions of this Order.

SECTION 10: This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 7th day of February, 2018.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE