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Louisiana Family Forum makes changes to judicial voting guide

The Louisiana Family Forum has amended its judicial voting guide after two groups expressed concerns about affiliations claimed by appellate Judge Jeff Hughes, a candidate for the Louisiana Supreme Court. Under the "affiliation" category, Hughes listed the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry and Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana. After the guide was released, representatives from LABI and PAR expressed concerns, says Gene Mills, the forum's executive director. "That term was broad and generic enough that it may construe 'association,'" Mills says. Along with making the changes to Hughes' responses, the family forum is also sending out a letter from his opponent, Supreme Court Justice Catherine "Kitty" Kimball. Kimball refused to answer the questions for the voter guide as part of a personal policy. "My consistent judicial philosophy, and one that I feel very strongly about, is that my personal opinion and judicial responsibility are separate and distinct," Kimball wrote in a letter to Mills. Kimball noted that her record on family and children's issues is clear, based on her rulings and activities outside the courtroom.—**Timothy Boone**