## Office of the Commissioner State of Louisiana

Division of Administration

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



JAY DARDENNE
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 20, 2020

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## DARDENNE NAMES COUVILLON HEAD OF GROUP BENEFITS

Commissioner of Administration Jay Dardenne is appointing Col. David Couvillon as CEO of the Office of Group Benefits. He will oversee the operation of the group health plan comprising 132,000 policyholders, active and retired, and their dependents. Couvillon starts Oct. 21, replacing interim CEO Renita Ward Williams.

"We're excited to have someone of Col. Couvillon's leadership ability and experience to run this key office in state government," Commissioner Dardenne said. "While we understand Renita's decision to leave, we are thankful for her service to the state."

Couvillon has worked in group health care for almost 25 years, during which he served as an administrator for Louisiana Medicare Services. In this capacity he managed claims and customer service, pioneered the electronic processing of claims, improved provider enrollment and assisted with provider relations on the state and national level. He also worked as the OGB liaison for Blue Cross Blue Shield, which administers claims processing for the vast majority of OGB members.

Couvillon is a decorated veteran of the United States Marine Corps, reaching one of the highest ranking positions as colonel and commanding a 900-person infantry battalion. During Operation Iraqi Freedom he served as the military provincial governor of the Wasit Governate in Iraq.

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