

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Minutes of Meeting
2012 Regular Session
Tuesday, May 15, 2012
Upon Adjournment

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Patrick Williams, vice chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. in House Committee Room 1 of the State Capitol, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll and a quorum was established.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Representative Joel C. Robideaux, Chairman
Representative Patrick C. Williams, Vice Chairman
Representative Bryan Adams
Representative Taylor F. Barras
Representative Regina Ashford Barrow
Representative Wesley T. Bishop
Representative Christopher Broadwater
Representative Richard T. Burford
Representative Michael E. Danahay
Representative Mickey J. Guillory
Representative Lowell C. Hazel
Representative Frank A. Hoffmann
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative Nick Lorusso
Representative Harold L. Ritchie
Representative Major Thibaut
Representative Lenar L. Whitney
Representative Thomas P. Willmott

Members Absent:

Representative Eddie J. Lambert

Staff Members Present:

Ms. Alison Pryor, Committee Attorney
Ms. Elise Read, Committee Analyst
Ms. Karen Stephens, Committee Secretary
Ms. Vanessa Forrest, Sergeant at Arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 144 by Senator Mills

Senator Mills presented Senate Bill No. 144, which would phase-in an exemption from local sales tax on certain inhibitors and complex biologics if the Revenue Estimating Conference estimated a certain percentage increase in state general sales tax.

Representative Barrow offered a motion to limit witness testimony to two minutes, to which there was no objection. Those voting yea were Representatives Adams, Barras, Barrow, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Burford, Danahay, Guillory, Hazel, Hoffmann, Lorusso, Ritchie, Thibaut, Whitney, Patrick Williams, and Willmott.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Robideaux offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 144 favorably, to which Representative Ritchie objected. The motion to report the bill favorably failed by a vote of 7 yeas and 11 nays. Those voting yea were Representatives Broadwater, Burford, Hoffmann, Lorusso, Robideaux, Whitney, and Patrick Williams. Representatives Adams, Barras, Barrow, Wesley Bishop, Danahay, Guillory, Hazel, Johnson, Ritchie, Thibaut, and Willmott voted nay.

Present to speak in opposition were Mr. Chad Major, representing Professional Fire Fighters, 801 Merle Gustafson, Baton Rouge, LA; and Mr. George Marretta, representing the Louisiana Municipal Association, 700 N. Tenth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 344-5001.

A copy of the witness cards for individuals (who were present but did not testify) in support of, in opposition to, and to provide information on the bill is attached. (see Exhibit "A")

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel C. Robideaux, Chairman

Date approved: _____