

House Committee on Ways and Means

Minutes of Meeting
2013 Regular Session
April 16, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Joel C. Robideaux, chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. in Room 6, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Joel C. Robideaux, Chairman
Representative Taylor F. Barras
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 Eddie J. Lambert
Representative Harold L. Ritchie
Representative Julie Stokes
Representative Major Thibaut
Representative Jeff R. Thompson
Representative Lenar L. Whitney
Representative Patrick C. Williams, Vice Chair
Representative Thomas P. Willmott

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Regina Ashford Barrow

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Alison Pryor, Attorney

Ms. Elise C. Read, Legislative Analyst
Ms. Kristin Cheng, Secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Ms. Gloria Leonard, Sergeant at Arms
Ms. Mattie Franklin, Sergeant at Arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 536 by Representative Katrina Jackson

Representative Robideaux indicated that House Bill No. 536 by Representative Katrina Jackson, which is a Constitutional Amendment that requires federal income taxes paid as a deductible item in computing state individual income tax and authorizes the deduction in computing state corporate income tax, would not be heard at this meeting.

House Bill No. 537 by Representative Katrina Jackson

Representative Robideaux indicated that House Bill No. 537 by Representative Katrina Jackson, which is a constitutional amendment that levies an additional tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products and authorizes the dedication of such monies, would not be heard at this meeting.

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 House Bill No. 537 is attached. (See Exhibit "A")

House Bill No. 609 by Representative Katrina Jackson

Representative Robideaux indicated that House Bill No. 609 by Representative Katrina Jackson, which reduces the rates for individual income tax, would not be heard at this meeting.

House Bill No. 623 by Representative Katrina Jackson

Representative Robideaux indicated that House Bill No. 623 by Representative Katrina Jackson, which increases the state tax on certain tobacco products, would not be heard at this meeting.

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 House Bill No. 537 is attached. (See Exhibit "B")

House Bill No. 626 by Representative Katrina Jackson

Representative Robideaux indicated that House Bill No. 626 by Representative Katrina Jackson, which reduces the rate for corporate income tax and repeals corporate franchise taxes and federal deductions allowed on net state corporate income tax, would not be heard at this meeting.

House Bill No. 193 by Representative Gisclair

Representative Gisclair presented House Bill No. 193, which provides relative to certain port and harbor activities for purposes of qualifying for the Ports of La. tax credit.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report House Bill No. 193 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 193 was reported favorably by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robideaux, Barras, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Burford, Danahay, Guillory, Hazel, Hoffmann, Johnson, Lambert, Ritchie, Stokes, Thibaut, Thompson, Whitney, Patrick Williams, and Willmott voted yea.

Present to speak in support of House Bill No. 193 was Mr. Chett Chiasson (See Exhibit "C"), Greater Lafourche Port Commission, 16829 East Main, Galliano, LA 70354, (985) 632-6701.

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 House Bill No. 537 is attached. (See Exhibit "D")

House Bill No. 153 by Representative Foil

Representative Hazel presented House Bill No. 153 for Representative Foil, which expands the income tax checkoff applicable to prostate cancer to include all types of cancer.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report House Bill No. 153 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 153 was reported favorably by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robideaux, Barras, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Burford, Danahay, Guillory, Hazel, Hoffmann, Johnson, Lambert, Ritchie, Stokes, Thibaut, Thompson, Whitney, Patrick Williams, and Willmott voted yea.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to place House Bill No. 153 on the local and consent calendar, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 153 was placed on the local and consent calendar by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robideaux, Barras, Wesley Bishop,

Broadwater, Burford, Danahay, Guillory, Hazel, Hoffmann, Johnson, Lambert, Ritchie, Stokes, Thibaut, Thompson, Whitney, Patrick Williams, and Willmott voted yea.

Present to speak in support of House Bill No. 153 was Mr. Mark Drennen, Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, 703 Laurel Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 201-8930.

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 House Bill No. 153 is attached. (See Exhibit "E")

House Bill No. 416 by Representative Connick

Representative Connick presented House Bill No. 416, which provides for an individual tax return checkoff for donations for the cost of decorative lighting on the Crescent City Connection Bridge.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report House Bill No. 416 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 416 was reported favorably by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robideaux, Barras, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Burford, Danahay, Guillory, Hazel, Hoffmann, Johnson, Lambert, Ritchie, Stokes, Thibaut, Thompson, Whitney, Patrick Williams, and Willmott voted yea.

Representative Willmott offered a motion to place House Bill No. 416 on the local and consent calendar, to which there was no objection. Action on House Bill No. 416 was placed on the local and consent calendar by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robideaux, Barras, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Burford, Danahay, Guillory, Hazel, Hoffmann, Johnson, Lambert, Ritchie, Stokes, Thibaut, Thompson, Whitney, Patrick Williams, and Willmott voted yea.

House Bill No. 617 by Representative Ortego

Representative Robideaux indicated that House Bill No. 617 by Representative Ortego, which creates an income tax checkoff for the Louisiana National Guard Honor Guard for Military Funerals, would not be heard at this meeting.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel C. Robideaux, Chairman

Date