

House Committee on Appropriations

Minutes of Meeting
2016 Regular Session
May 24, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Cameron Henry, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Cameron Henry, Chairman
Representative Mark Abraham
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Tony Bacala
Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative John A. Berthelot
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr.
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Jack G. McFarland
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative John M. Schroder, Sr.
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative James K. Armes, III
Representative Robert E. Billiot
Representative Franklin J. Foil
Representative Lance Harris
Representative Bob Hensgens
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Steve E. Pylant

Representative Scott M. Simon

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Penny B. Bouquet, Administrative Secretary
Mr. Peter G. E. Conroy, Legislative Analyst
Ms. Nancy Keaton, Legislative Analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

None

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 302 by Senator Morrell

Senator Morrell presented Senate Bill No. 302, which creates the Safe and Fair Return Act of 2016.

Mr. Josh Perry, Executive Director of the Louisiana Center for Children's Rights, 1100 Milton Street, New Orleans, LA 70122, (504) 658-6860, presented an overview of the bill. (See Exhibit A)

Senator Morrell and Mr. Perry discussed the intent and fiscal impact of the bill with Representatives Henry and Leger.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Leger offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 302 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 302 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Richard, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

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 Senate Bill No. 302 is available upon request.

Senate Bill No. 324 by Senator Morrell

Senator Morrell presented Senate Bill No. 324, which raises the age for consideration as a juvenile in the criminal justice system and creates the Louisiana Juvenile Jurisdiction Planning and Implementation Committee.

Mr. Perry presented an overview and discussed the fiscal impact of the bill.

Senator Morrell and Mr. Perry discussed the projected cost of an additional secure custody facility for the Office of Juvenile Justice with Representative Abraham.

Representative Mack and Senator Morrell discussed the additional cost to local government for housing seventeen year-old offenders with Representative Bacala.

Mr. Perry and Senator Morrell discussed pretrial lengths of stay for juveniles and the shortage of beds for those juveniles with Representative Bacala.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 324 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 324 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Richard, Schroder, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

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 Senate Bill No. 324 is available upon request.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to adjourn, to which there was no objection. The motion passed by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Richard, Schroder, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Cameron Henry
House Committee on Appropriations