

House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2016 Regular Session
April 14, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative John A. Berthelot, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 6, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative John A. Berthelot, chairman
Representative Joseph Bouie Jr.
Representative Paula P. Davis
Representative Stephen C. Dwight
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Cedric B. Glover
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Mike Huval, vice chairman
Representative Sam L. Jenkins Jr.
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Barbara M. Norton
Representative Stephen E. Pugh
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Malinda B. White
Representative Thomas P. Willmott

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Robert E. Billiot

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tina Righteous, attorney
Katie LeLeux, attorney
Bryan D. Vincent, director
Valarie Banks, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

William Belleu, clerk
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 785 by Representative Leopold

Representative Leopold presented House Bill No. 785, which provides for the creation of neighborhood improvement and beautification districts in certain parishes.

Representative Berthelot offered amendments to prohibit the district from acquiring property by expropriation. Representative Berthelot offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Huval, Jenkins, Norton, Pugh, Richard, and White voted yea.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report House Bill No. 785 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 785 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Huval, Jenkins, Norton, Pugh, Richard, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 967 by Representative Thibaut

At the request of Representative Thibaut, Dannie Garrett, representing Pointe Coupee Police Jury, 635 Main Street #3, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 382-0333, presented House Bill No. 967, which authorizes parish governing authorities to regulate livestock.

Representative Huval offered a motion to report House Bill No. 967 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 967 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Davis, Edmonds, Huval, Jenkins, Norton, Pugh, Richard, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1074 by Representative James

Representative James asked the committee to voluntarily defer House Bill No. 1074, which creates the North Baton Rouge Economic Development District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1074. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1074 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Davis, Edmonds, Huval, Jenkins, Norton, Pugh, Smith, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 1056 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 1056, which provides relative to the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District.

Representative Huval offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 1056. Representative Huval offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Davis, Edmonds, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Norton, Pugh, Smith, and White voted yea.

Representative Norton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1056 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 1056 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Norton, Pugh, Smith, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 112 by Representative Pugh

Representative Pugh presented House Bill No. 112, which provides relative to the official journals of municipalities.

Mayor Robert F. Zabbia, city of Ponchatoula, 123 West Hickory, Ponchatoula, LA, (985) 386-0741, spoke in support of House Bill No. 112.

Ernie Drake, III, city of Ponchatoula, 154 West Pine Street, Ponchatoula, LA 70454, (985) 386-7600, spoke in support of House Bill No. 112.

Clancy DuBos, representing Louisiana Press Association, 3923 Bienville Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 451-9058, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 112.

Norris Babin, representing *Plaquemines Gazette* and *St. Bernard Voice*, 234 Mehle Street, Arabi, LA, (504) 279-7488, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 112.

Sam Hanna, Jr., representing Louisiana Press Association (no address given), spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 112.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 112, to which Representative Pugh objected. The secretary called the roll, and action on House Bill No. 112 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Bouie, Davis, Edmonds, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Norton, Richard, White, and Willmott voted yea. Representatives Berthelot, Glover, Marcelle, and Pugh voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support, 4 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 203 by Representative Lance Harris

Representative Lance Harris presented House Bill No. 203, which provides relative to the Central Louisiana Regional Infrastructure Beltway Commission.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 203 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 203 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Davis, Glover, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, and Willmott voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1072 by Representative Terry Brown

Representative Terry Brown presented House Bill No. 1072, which authorizes two or more parishes to create a game and fish preserve when the preserve is located in multiple parishes.

Representative Norton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1072 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1072 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Davis, Glover, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, and Willmott voted yea.

House Bill No. 1073 by Representative Robert Johnson

Representative Robert Johnson asked to voluntarily defer House Bill No. 1073, which authorizes Avoyelles Parish to appoint game and fish commissions.

Representative Huval offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1073. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1073 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Davis, Glover, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, and Willmott voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 944 by Representative Carmody

Representative Carmody presented House Bill No. 944, which provides relative to preservation of memorials on public property.

Bradley Gulotta, representing Republican Parish Executive Committee District 4 Tangipahoa Parish, 13919 Vitrano Lane, Independence, LA 70443, (985) 969-4164, spoke in support of House Bill No. 944.

Pierre A. McGraw, representing Monumental Task Committee, Inc., 1214 Prytania Street, Suite 333, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 453-5300, spoke in support of House Bill No. 944.

Jerry F. Pepper, representing Louisiana Landmarks Society, 3909 Plaza Tower Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70816-4356, (225) 272-8727, spoke in support of House Bill No. 944.

Major Bradley Hayes, representing VFW/Sons of the American Revolution, 210 Turnberry Drive, Covington, LA 70433, (985) 302-5203, spoke in support of House Bill No. 944.

Jonathan Maki, 1010 Pleasant Street (no city given), (504) 982-1115, spoke in support of House Bill No. 944.

John Dunlap, representing veterans, 1275 Glasgow, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 282-0609, spoke in support of House Bill No. 944.

Representative Bouie offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 944. To which there was objection. The secretary called the roll, and by a vote of 7 yeas and 7 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Bouie, Glover, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, and Smith voted yea. Representatives Berthelot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Hilferty, Huval, and Pugh voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 860 by Representative Montoucet

House Bill No. 860 provides that the attorney general shall be the legal counsel for the state examiner of the municipal fire and police civil service.

Representative Huval offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 860. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 860 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, and Smith voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion to adjourn passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, and Smith voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman John A. Berthelot
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: May 24, 2017