

House Committee on Appropriations

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Regular Session
May 22, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Franklin J. Foil, Vice Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, called the meeting to order at 1:52 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 Robert E. Billiot
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr.
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Franklin J. Foil, Vice Chairman
Representative Lance Harris
Representative Bob Hensgens
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Jack G. McFarland
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative John M. Schroder, Sr.
Representative Scott M. Simon
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative James K. Armes, III
Representative Steve E. Pylant
Representative Jerome Richard

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Katie Andress, Secretary
Mr. Peter G. E. Conroy, Legislative Analyst
Ms. Nancy Keaton, Legislative Analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Ms. Faye Talbot, Sergeant at Arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Representative Henry in the chair.

House Bill No. 528 by Representative Broadwater

Representative Broadwater presented House Bill No. 528, which provided relative to the outcome-based funding formula for public Postsecondary Education.

Representative Henry offered a set of amendments to create a process by which the Higher Education funding formula will be debated in a public forum. He also offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Leger, Miller, Schroder, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Leger offered a motion to report House Bill No. 528 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 528 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Leger, Miller, and Schroder 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 House Bill No. 528 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 508 by Representative James

Representative James presented House Bill No. 508, which authorized a fee for the transfer of film tax credits.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Leger offered a motion to report House Bill No. 508 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 508 was reported favorably by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

Present to provide information was Ms. Mandi Mitchell, Assistant Secretary for the Department of Economic Development, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, no telephone number provided.

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. 508 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 405 by Representative Hoffmann

Representative Hoffmann presented House Bill No. 405, which provided relative to the Medicaid long-term care services system.

Representative Henry offered an amendment to add that implementation is subject to appropriation of funds by the legislature, and he offered a motion to adopt the amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Harris, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 405 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 405 was reported with amendments by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

Present to speak in support was Ms. Laura Brackin, The Community Provider Association, no address provided, (225) 402-7304.

Present to provide information was Ms. Michelle Alletto, Deputy Undersecretary for the Department of Health, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500.

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. 405 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 52 by Representative Connick

Representative Connick presented House Bill No. 52, which changed the dedication of a portion of the truck and trailer fees collected in certain parishes and creates the Regional Maintenance and Improvement Fund.

Representative Henry offered a set of amendments to change the name of the fund, to reduce the allocation amount, and to delete references to collections of truck and trailer fees from Orleans Parish. He also offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Schroder offered a motion to report House Bill No. 52 with amendments, to which Representative Chaney objected. House Bill No. 52 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Billiot, Carter, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, McFarland, Miguez, Schroder, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Berthelot, Chaney, Leger, Miller, and Smith voted nay.

Present to provide information was Dr. Shawn Wilson, Secretary for the Department of Transportation and Development, 1201 Capital Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 379-1200.

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. 52 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 673 by Representative Stokes

Representative Stokes presented House Bill No. 673, which provided with respect to the exclusions and exemptions applicable to sales and use taxes.

Representative Henry offered a set of technical amendments, and offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Henry offered a set of amendments to delete provisions concerning certain exclusions and exemptions, and to delete specific timing and other requirements concerning sales and use tax refunds. He also offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Leger offered an amendment to add applicability for the exemption for nonprofit entities to include tangible personal property bought with revenues of the entity, and also offered a motion to adopt the amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Bill No. 673 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 673 was reported with amendments by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Schroder, and Simon voted yea.

Present to provide information was Secretary Kimberly L. Robinson, Department of Revenue, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-4059.

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.673 is available upon request.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Leger offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Schroder, and Simon voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Cameron Henry
House Committee on Appropriations