

## **House Committee on Appropriations**

Minutes of Meeting  
2017 Regular Session  
May 30, 2017

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Franklin J. Foil, Vice Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.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 James K. Armes, III  
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 Walt Leger, III  
Representative Jack G. McFarland  
Representative Blake Miguez  
Representative Dustin Miller  
Representative Steve E. Pylant  
Representative John M. Schroder, Sr.  
Representative Scott M. Simon  
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith  
Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Valarie Hodges  
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  
Ms. Vivian Hurst, Sergeant at Arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48 by Senator Milkovich**

Senator Milkovich presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48, which required state agencies to include on their website information regarding any properties rented by the agency.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Leger offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Leger, Pylant, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

**House Resolution No. 154 by Representative Bacala**

Representative Bacala presented House Resolution No. 154, which directed executive branch agencies receiving appropriations to prepare a report detailing the amount and impact of cuts to the agency's budget in FY16-17.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 154 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 154 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Leger, Pylant, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

**Senate Bill No. 6 by Senator John Smith**

Ms. Cheryl B. Cooper, Attorney for the Senate Business Affairs Division, 900 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-0604, presented Senate Bill No. 6 for Senator John Smith, which provided for quorum requirements for the Office of Group Benefits Policy and Planning Board.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 6 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 6 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Leger, Pylant, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

Present to provide information was Mr. Tommy Teague, Chief Executive Officer for the Office of Group Benefits, P.O. Box 44036, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-1970.

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. 6 is available upon request.

**Senate Bill No. 223 by Senator Riser**

Senator Riser presented Senate Bill No. 223, which prohibited investment fund managers from investing the state's special funds monies in companies and in nations that support terrorism.

Representative Foil offered a technical set of amendments, and offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Pylant, Schroder, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Foil offered a set of amendments to prohibit the State Treasury from investing money (credited to certain state special funds) in companies associated with countries on the federal list of state sponsors of terrorism, and to change the due date for the Treasurer's annual report. He also offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Pylant, Schroder, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 223 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 223 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, and Schroder voted yea.

Present to speak in support was Colonel Rob Maness, Retired, Louisiana Power Coalition, Madisonville, LA, (985) 218-0135.

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. 223 is available upon request.

#### **Senate Bill No. 207 by Senator Allain**

Senator Allain presented Senate Bill No. 207, which limited the permissible uses of monies in the Saltwater Fish Research and Conservation Fund.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Foil offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 207 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 207 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Schroder, 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. 207 is available upon request.

#### **Senate Bill No. 67 by Senator Fannin**

Senator Fannin presented Senate Bill No. 67, which provided contract restrictions on public entities that fail to comply with audit requirements.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 67 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 67 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, McFarland, Pylant, Schroder, and Zeringue voted yea.

#### **Senate Bill No. 12 by Senator Alario**

Representative Billiot presented Senate Bill No. 12 for Senator Alario, which re-created the Department of the Treasury and its agencies.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 12 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 12 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, McFarland, Pylant, Schroder, and Zeringue voted yea.

Present to provide information was Treasurer Ron Henson, 900 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-0010. (See Exhibit A)

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. 12 is available upon request.

### **Senate Bill No. 249 by Senator Chabert**

Senator Chabert presented Senate Bill No. 249, which provided for the disbursement of certain revenue from the Coastal Protection and Restoration Fund for hurricane protection purposes.

Representative Zeringue offered amendments to provide for a certain percentage of allocations of certain revenues for hurricane projects. He also offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, McFarland, Pylant, Schroder, and Zeringue voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Amedée offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 249 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 249 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Foil, Hensgens, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

Present to provide information was Mr. Johnny Bradberry, Chairman of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, P.O. Box 44027, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-7308.

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. 249 is available upon request.

### **Senate Bill No. 148 by Senator Chabert**

Senator Chabert presented Senate Bill No. 148, which created the Waterway Dredging and Deepening Priority Program.

Mr. Alan Boxberger, Director of the General Government Section, Legislative Fiscal Office, 900 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7233, discussed the fiscal note associated with the bill.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Abraham offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 148 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 148 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Miguez, Pylant, Schroder, 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. 148 is available upon request.

### **Senate Bill No. 98 by Senator Donahue**

Senator Donahue presented Senate Bill No. 98, which provided for the appropriation of incentive expenditures.

Representative Carter offered a set of amendments to include in the executive budget a listing of all incentive expenditure programs, and an expenditure forecast for each program. He also offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, Schroder, and Zeringue voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Schroder offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 98 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 98 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, Schroder, and Zeringue voted yea.

Present to provide information were Secretary Don Pierson, and Ms. Mandi Mitchell, Assistant Secretary, Department of Economic Development, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-3000.

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. 98 is available upon request.

### **Senate Bill No. 100 by Senator Donahue**

Senator Donahue presented Senate Bill No. 100, which provided for the requirement that the Division of Administration produce a non-discretionary adjusted standstill budget.

Representative Foil offered a technical amendment, and offered a motion to adopt the amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, Schroder, and Zeringue voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Schroder offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 100 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 100 was reported with amendments by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, Schroder, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

### **Senate Bill No. 57 by Senator Cortez**

Senator Cortez presented Senate Bill No. 57, a constitutional amendment to remove the authority to fund state police for traffic control from the Transportation Trust Fund. (See Exhibit B)

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Pylant offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 57 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 57 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, Schroder, 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. 57 is available upon request.

Representative Henry in the chair.

### **Senate Bill No. 225 by Senator Hewitt**

Senator Hewitt presented Senate Bill No. 225, which creates the Louisiana Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Advisory Council (LaSTEM).

Representative Henry offered a set of amendments to authorize grants and donations to be deposited into the Treasury and to require the council to adopt a resolution regarding the withdrawal of money from the fund. He also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, Schroder, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Carter offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 225 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 225 was reported with amendments by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, Schroder, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Present to provide information was Dr. Joseph Rallo, Commissioner of Higher Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-4253.

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. 225 is available upon request.

### **Senate Bill No. 102 by Senator Johns**

Senator Johns presented Senate Bill No. 102, which created and provided for Louisiana Educational Workforce Training Fund to provide opportunities for educational training in the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Pylant offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 102 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 102 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, Miller, Pylant, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Present to provide information was Dr. Monty Sullivan, LCTCS President, 265 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 922-1643.

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. 102 is available upon request.

### **House Bill No. 281 by Representative Norton**

Representative Norton presented House Bill No. 281, which required the Louisiana Department of Health to implement the Medicaid health home option for persons with serious mental illness.

Representative Hensgens offered a set of amendments to require approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. He also offered a motion to adopt the amendments.

Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Bagley, Berthelot, Carter, Chaney, Foil, Hensgens, Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.



There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Carter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 281 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 281 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Harris, Hensgens, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, Schroder, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Present to provide information were Mr. W. Jeff Reynolds, Undersecretary, and Dr. James Hussey, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Behavioral Health, Louisiana 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. 281 is available upon request.

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 by Representative Nancy Landry**

Ms. Erin Bendily, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-3772, presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 for Representative Nancy Landry, which provided for legislative approval of the Minimum Foundation Program formula for FY17-18.

There was no further discussion on the resolution.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Harris, Hensgens, Miguez, Pylant, Schroder, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Present to provide information were Dr. Gary Jones, President of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, no address provided, (318) 563-4433, and Ms. Beth Scioneaux, Deputy Superintendent for Management and Finance, Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-3617.

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 Concurrent Resolution No. 7 is available upon request.

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 88 by Representative Stokes**

Representative Stokes presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 88, which requested the Commissioner of Administration to prepare a reconciliation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report with certain other year-end financial reports.

There was no further discussion on the resolution.

Representative Henry offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 88 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 88 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Amedée, Bagley, Billiot, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Miguez, Pylant, Schroder, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea.

#### **House Resolution No. 135 by Representative Stokes**

Representative Stokes presented House Resolution No. 135, which requested the Commissioner of Administration to prepare a reconciliation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report with certain other year-end financial reports.

There was no further discussion on the resolution.

Representative Henry offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 135 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 135 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Amedée, Bagley, Billiot, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Miguez, Pylant, Schroder, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea.

#### **Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83 by Senator White**

Representative Foil presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83 for Senator White, which requested that CDBG–Disaster Recovery Program funds received by Louisiana relative to damages caused by the flooding in the state during 2016 be subject to legislative oversight.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Foil offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bagley, Billiot, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Miguez, Pylant, Schroder, and Simon voted yea.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

A "sunset" hearing was held for the Department of Treasury.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Armes offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Billiot, Carter, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Miguez, Pylant, Schroder, and Simon voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Cameron Henry  
House Committee on Appropriations