

House Committee on Appropriations

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Second Extraordinary Session
June 13, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Franklin J. Foil, Vice Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, called the meeting to order at 10:15 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 Tony Bacala
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 Jerome Richard
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 Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative John A. Berthelot

Representative Steve E. Pylant

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Ms. Vivian Hurst, Sergeant at Arms
Ms. Faye Talbot, Sergeant at Arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Public testimony regarding the appropriations proposed in House Bill No. 1 of the 2017 Second Extraordinary Session

Representative Foil indicated that the committee would hear public testimony regarding the appropriations proposed in House Bill No. 1, schedule by schedule.

Department of Public Safety and Corrections– Schedule 08

Present to speak in support were Mr. Danny Barras, Mr. Richard Berger, and Mr. Brian Easley, Louisiana Probation and Parole Officers Association, no address provided, no telephone number provided. (See Exhibit A)

Present to provide information was Mr. Ed R. Parker, AFSCME, 429 Government Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 927-2800.

Louisiana Department of Health– Schedule 09

Present to speak in opposition were Ms. Cindy Bishop, Ms. Adrienne Huval, Dr. Troy Hidalgo, and Ms. Sue Catchings, Louisiana School-Based Health Alliance, P.O. Box 64749, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, (225) 933-5435; Ms. Jessica Michot, Trach Mommas of Louisiana, 13070 Catahoula Drive, Denham Springs, LA 70726, (225) 200-5178 and Ms. Angéla Lorio, Trach Mommas of Louisiana, 11850 Wentling Avenue, #A8, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 778-7765; Mr. Barry Meyer, The Arc Baton Rouge, 8326 Kelwood Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 92-0855; Ms. Janet Parker, The Arc Caddo-Bossier, 351 Jordan Street, Shreveport, LA 71101, (318) 221-8392; Ms. April Dunn, Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, 3902 White Sands Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70814, (225) 272-4080; Ms. Julie Folse, 257, Grand Drive, Thibodaux, LA 70301, (985) 438-1179; Mr. Randall Brown, Louisiana Development Disabilities Council, P.O. Box 62, Haughton, LA 71037,

(318) 458-2100; Ms. Kelly Monroe, The Arc of Louisiana, 606 Colonial Drive, Suite G, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 383-1033; Mr. Rocky Fuselier, Lake Charles, LA, no telephone number provided; Mr. Jeff Arseneaux and Ms. Sharon Hennessey, People First of Louisiana, 606 Colonial Drive, Suite G, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 383-1033; Ms. Maria Caserta, 33 Zinnia Drive, Covington, LA 70433, (985) 773-0380; Ms. Constance Causey, no contact information provided; Ms. Nicole McGee, NAMI Louisiana, 307 France Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 291-6262; and Ms. China Guillory, 1533 North Grace Street, Lake Charles, LA 70615, (337) 309-3161. (See Exhibits B & C)

Present to provide information were Mr. Charles Castille, Rural Hospital Coalition, 450 Laurel Street, Suite 1880, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 389-9429, and Mr. Ed R. Parker, AFSCME, 429 Government Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 927-2800. (See Exhibit D)

Louisiana Workforce Commission– Schedule 14

Present to speak in opposition were Mr. Greg Brustowitz and Ms. Celeste Brustowitz, 2327 Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70115, (504) 322-2176; Mr. Donald Banning, 663 Grove Avenue, Harahan, LA 70123, (504) 737-4955; Mr. Travis Smith, 38620 Tyler Ballard Road, Walker, LA 70785, (337) 371-8871; and Ms. Libby Murphy, Louisiana Rehabilitation Council, 442 Twin Oaks Road, Stonewall, LA 71078, (318) 401-3350.

Present to provide information were Dr. Monty Sullivan, President of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, 265 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 922-1643, and Ms. Ternisa Hutchinson, Deputy Director of the Office of Planning and Budget, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-150, (225) 342-7005.

Higher Education– Schedule 19

Present to provide information were Dr. Jim Henderson, President of the University of Louisiana System, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (318) 426-7104; Dr. Ray L. Belton, President of the Southern University System, P.O. Box 9374, Baton Rouge, LA 70813, (225) 771-5020; Dr. F. King Alexander, President of the Louisiana State University System (LSU), 3810 West Lakeshore Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 578-2111; and Dr. Monty Sullivan, President of LCTCS, 265 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 992-2800.

A copy of the witness cards for all individuals (who were present, but did not testify) in support of, in opposition to, and to provide information on House Bill No. 1 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 1 by Representative Henry

Representative Henry presented House Bill No. 1, which provided for the ordinary operating expenses of state government for FY17-18.

Representative Leger offered a set of amendments. (See Exhibit E) He also offered a motion to adopt the amendments, to which Representative Smith objected. The amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Billiot, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Richard, Schroder, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Carter, Leger, Miller, and Smith voted nay.

Commissioner Jay Dardenne, Division of Administration, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-210, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7000, discussed the Revenue Estimating Conference's revenue forecast with Representative Hodges. (See Exhibit F)

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1 with amendments, to which Representative Leger objected. House Bill No. 1 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Richard, Schroder, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Leger, Miller, and Smith voted nay.

Present to provide information were Commissioner Jay Dardenne and Ms. Barbara Goodson, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Administration, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-210, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7000; Mr. Barry Dussé, Director of the Office of Planning and Budget, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7005; and Mr. Matthew Block, Executive Counsel for the Governor's Office, 900 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7015.

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. 1 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 4 by Representative Henry

Representative Henry presented House Bill No. 4, which provided for the transfer, deposit, and use of monies among state funds.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Henry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 4 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 4 was reported favorably by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Richard, Schroder, Simon, 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 House Bill No. 4 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 5 by Representative Henry

Representative Henry presented House Bill No. 5, which made supplemental appropriations for FY16-17.

Representative Henry offered a set of amendments to increase and decrease appropriations from fees and self-generated revenues and statutory dedications, and to increase interagency transfers out of the Capital Outlay Act. He also offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Richard, Schroder, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Foil offered a motion to report House Bill No. 5 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 5 was reported with amendments by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Richard, Schroder, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Present to provide information was Mr. Barry Dussé, Director of the Office of Planning and Budget, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7005.

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. 5 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 10 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 10, which provided for the ordinary operating expenses of state government for FY17-18.

Representative Leger offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 10, to which Representative Miguez objected. The motion was withdrawn before a vote was taken.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Miguez offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 10, to which Representative Smith objected. House Bill No. 10 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Richard, Schroder, and Simon voted yea. Representatives Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Leger, Miller, Smith, and Zeringue voted nay.

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. 10 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 6 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 6, which made supplemental appropriations for FY16-17.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Leger offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 6. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 6 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Richard, Schroder, Simon, 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 House Bill No. 6 is available upon request.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative McFarland offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Richard, Schroder, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Cameron Henry
House Committee on Appropriations