

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Regular Session
April 26, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Michael E. Danahay, chairman of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. in Room 2, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Michael E. Danahay, chairman
Representative Jimmy Harris
Representative Lance Harris
Representative Dorothy Sue Hill
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Gregory A. Miller
Representative John C. "Jay" Morris, III
Representative Stephen E. Pugh, vice chairman
Representative John M. Schroder, Sr.
Representative Robert E. Shadoin

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst
Mark Mahaffey, attorney
Shawn O'Brien, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms
Hannah Gale, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 168 by Representative Carpenter

Representative Carpenter presented House Bill No. 168, which requires reporting of certain information concerning persons with a felony conviction who are released from the custody or supervision of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections.

Representative Danahay offered technical amendments to the bill. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Schroder, and Shadoin voted yea.

Donald R. Johnson, 300 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, 225-389-4787, spoke in support of House Bill No. 168.

Representative Danahay offered amendments to change the effective date of proposed law from January 1, 2018, to February 1, 2018. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Schroder, and Shadoin voted yea.

Representative Jenkins offered a motion to report House Bill No. 168 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 168 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Schroder, and Shadoin voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 160 by Representative Gregory Miller

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Bill No. 160, which provides relative to voting by a person who has a disability.

Brian J. Champagne, Louisiana Registrar of Voters Association, P. O. Box 315, Hahnville, LA 70057, 985-783-5120, spoke in support of House Bill No. 160.

Representative Gregory Miller offered a motion to report House Bill No. 160 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 160 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Schroder, and Shadoin voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 229 by Representative Smith

Representative Smith presented House Bill No. 229, which provides relative to registration and voting by a person convicted of a felony.

Kyle Ardoin, office of the secretary of state, 8585 Archives Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, 225-922-2880, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 229.

Checo Yancy, VOTE, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, 225-270-5245, spoke in support of House Bill No. 229.

Bruce Reilly, VOTE, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, 504-758-9420, spoke in support of House Bill No. 229.

Norris Henderson, VOTE, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, 504-453-4819, spoke in support of House Bill No. 229.

Representative Danahay offered amendments to add an effective date of February 1, 2018. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Schroder, and Shadoin voted yea.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 229. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 229 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Schroder, and Shadoin voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 22 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 544 by Representative Danahay

Representative Danahay presented House Bill No. 544, which makes revisions to the La. Election Code.

Kyle Ardoin, first assistant secretary of state, 8585 Archives Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, 225-922-2880, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 544.

Representative Danahay offered amendments to provide deadlines for the parish board of election supervisors to notify the parish custodian of voting machines and secretary of state of a reduction in the number of voting machines to be used at a consolidated polling place or at an election at which a proposition or question is to be presented to voters and in a presidential preference primary election; to provide deadlines for the parish board of election supervisors to submit a written request to the secretary of state to reduce the number of voting machines to be used in an election other than an election at which a proposition or question is to be presented to voters or a presidential preference primary election and to authorize additional voting machines for overcrowded precincts; relative to courses of instruction conducted by the clerk of court for commissioners-in-charge, commissioners, and alternate commissioners who are selected to serve in an election, to require rather than authorize the clerk to either issue a certificate of instruction to each person who attends and satisfactorily completes the course of instruction or maintain a list of such persons in the state voter registration computer system; to require the secretary of state to be made a party to an action contesting an election submitting a proposition to the voters; and to authorize the secretary of state to intervene in an action objecting to candidacy in which the secretary of state was not the qualifying official.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin voted yea.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to report House Bill No. 544 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 544 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 235 by Representative Marcelle

Representative Marcelle presented House Bill No. 235, a constitutional amendment which provides relative to persons eligible to vote.

Norris Henderson, VOTE, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 504-453-4819, spoke in support of House Bill No. 235.

Checo Yancy, VOTE, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA, 225-270-5245, spoke in support of House Bill No. 235.

Representative Jenkins offered a motion to report House Bill No. 235 favorably, to which Representative Shadoin objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 2 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris and Jenkins voted yea. Representatives Ivey, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and, Shadoin voted nay.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 235. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 235 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 17 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 256 by Representative Edmonds

Representative Edmonds presented House Bill No. 256, a constitutional amendment which prohibits certain persons from running for elective office or holding elective or certain appointed offices.

Norris Henderson, VOTE, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, 504-453-4819, spoke in support of House Bill No. 256.

Bruce Reilly, VOTE, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, 504-758-9420, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 256.

Representative Shadoin offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 256. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 256 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 351 by Representative Gregory Miller

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Bill No. 351, a constitutional amendment which prohibits, subject to certain exceptions, a person convicted of a felony from holding elective or appointive office.

Norris Henderson, VOTE, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, 504-453-4819, spoke in support of House Bill No. 351.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report House Bill No. 351 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 351 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

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

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

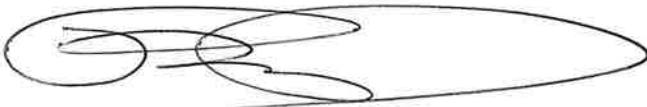
V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Danahay acknowledged the work of the committee secretary in recognition of Administrative Professionals Day

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Royce Duplessis', enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval shape.

Vice Chairman Royce Duplessis
House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: October 7, 2020

The committee has acknowledged on October 7, 2020, that these minutes were prepared in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives.