

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Regular Session
May 18, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Marcus L. Hunter
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative J. Rogers Pope
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Julie Stokes
Representative Bob Hensgens, vice chairman
Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman
Representative Taylor Barras, speaker

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Katrina R. Jackson
Representative H. Bernard LeBas
Representative Helena N. Moreno
Representative Jerome Richard

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Felicie Jackson, secretary
Brandi Cannon, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms
Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms
Carter Broussard, page
Benjamin Hunt Simon, page

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 34 by Senator Boudreaux**

On behalf of Senator Boudreaux, Senator Luneau presented Senate Bill No. 34, which provides relative to emergency ground ambulance service providers.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 34 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 34 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Horton, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, Hoffmann, and Speaker Barras voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 39 by Senator Boudreaux

On behalf of Senator Boudreaux, Senator Luneau presented Senate Bill No. 39, which provides relative to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 39 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 39 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Horton, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, Hoffmann, and Speaker Barras voted yea.

There were no witness cards submitted in support, opposition, nor for information.

Senate Bill No. 219 by Senator Fannin

Senator Fannin presented Senate Bill No. 219, which provides relative to certain hospital service districts.

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 219 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 219 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Horton, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, Hoffmann, and Speaker Barras voted yea.

There were no witness cards submitted in support, opposition, nor for information.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 by Representative Hilferty

On behalf of Representative Hilferty, Representative Davis presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 58, which requests an evaluation and report concerning prospective implementation of a "baby box" program as a means of reducing infant mortality.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Horton, Johnson, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Hensgens is in the chair.

Senate Bill No. 36 by Senator Martiny

On behalf of Senator Martiny, Mr. James Fritz, East Jefferson General Hospital, 4700 Houma Blvd, Metairie, LA 70006, (504) 503-4980, presented Senate Bill No. 36, which provides relative to the use of employment contracts in hospital service districts.

Representative Hoffmann is in the chair.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 36 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 36 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Johnson, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 66 by Senator Barrow

On behalf of Senator Barrow, Representative Cox presented Senate Bill No. 66, which provides relative to the Children's Cabinet and the Child Poverty Prevention Council of Louisiana.

Ms. Marketa Walters, Secretary, Department of Children and Family Services, 627 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-6930, spoke to provide information only on Senate Bill No. 66.

Representative Horton offered amendments to require that on or before August 1, 2019, the Children's Trust Fund coordinator and the executive director of the Children's Cabinet shall prepare and submit to the legislative committees on health and welfare a comparative analysis and report concerning the operations of the trust fund during the period prior to, and during the period after, the transfer of the fund from within the Department of Children and Family Services to the Children's Cabinet pursuant to proposed law. Representative Horton offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Johnson, Pope, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments to add a representative of the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children as a member of the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board.

Mr. Kevin Hayes, Policy Institute for Children, 412 N 4th, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 268-2225, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 66.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Johnson, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments to make technical, corrective, and clarifying changes. Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Johnson, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Cox offered amendments to add the assistant secretary of Child Welfare of the Department of Children and Family Services to the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund Board. After discussion, Representative Cox withdrew the amendments.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 66 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 66 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Johnson, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 281 by Representative Norton

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

Mr. James Hussey, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9505, spoke to provide information only on House Bill No. 281.

Representative Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 281 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 281 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Johnson, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, 1 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 55 by Representative Norton

Representative Norton presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 55, which creates a task force to study Louisiana's current statewide system of healthcare delivery for Medicaid enrollees with serious mental illness.

Representative Dustin Miller offered amendments to add the president of the La. State Nurses Association as a member of the task force and make technical changes. Representative Dustin Miller offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Horton, Johnson, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments to add the president of the La. Association of Behavioral Health Providers and make technical changes.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 55 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 55 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 1 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 61 by Representative Norton

Representative Norton presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 61, which creates the Louisiana Bullying Awareness and Treatment Task Force.

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 61. Without objection, action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 61 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

There were no witness cards submitted in support, opposition, nor for information.

House Bill No. 586 by Representative Hunter

Representative Hunter presented House Bill No. 586, which requires certain publicly funded healthcare facilities and providers to institute policies relative to continuity of patient care.

Representative Hunter offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill, which revises the bill's provisions proposing to codify in law certain requirements for continuity of patient care to require instead that the La. Department of Health provide for these continuity of care functions through administrative rulemaking.

Representative Hensgens is in the chair.

Representative Hunter offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Horton, Hunter, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, and Hensgens voted yea.

Representative Hoffmann is in the chair.

Ms. Avis Richard-Griffin, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9505, spoke to provide information only on House Bill No. 586.

Mr. Jeff Drodza, Louisiana Association of Hospitals Association, 450 Laurel St, Ste 1850, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 378-3205, spoke in support of House Bill No. 586.

Representative Hunter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 586 by substitute, to which Representative Horton objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 586 was reported by substitute by a vote of 10 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Hunter, Johnson, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea. Representative Horton voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to discuss.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Frank A. Hoffmann
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: