

House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Regular Session
April 20, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative John A. Berthelot, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative John A. Berthelot, chairman
Representative Robert E. Billiot
Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.
Representative Paula P. Davis
Representative Stephen C. Dwight
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Cedric B. Glover
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Mike Huval, vice chairman
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Barbara M. Norton
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Stephen E. Pugh

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tina Righteous, attorney
Valarie Banks, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Carter Stone, clerk
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 14 by Representative Falconer

Representative Falconer presented House Bill No. 14, which provides relative to the naming of the Madisonville branch library in St. Tammany Parish.

Jean Pelloat, mayor of Madisonville, 403 St. Francis Street, Madisonville, LA 70447, spoke in support of House Bill No. 14.

Representative Richard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 14 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 14 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Dwight, Edmonds, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Norton, Richard, Smith, and Stagni voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 85 by Representative Price

Representative Price presented House Bill No. 85, which provides with respect to financial security for survivors of federal law enforcement officers.

Representative Berthelot offered amendments to add provisions for retroactive effect and special effective date of the Act, and to name the Act. Representative Berthelot offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, and Stagni voted yea.

Kevin C. Harrison, retired U.S. marshal, no address provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 85.

Sheriff Bud Torres, no address provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 85.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 85 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 85 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, and Stagni voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 13 by Representative Thibaut

Representative Thibaut presented House Bill No. 13, which provides relative to the Pointe Coupee Parish library.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 13 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 13 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, and Stagni voted yea.

House Bill No. 24 by Representative Thibaut

Representative Thibaut presented House Bill No. 24, which provides relative to the West Baton Rouge Parish Tourist Commission.

Representative Huval offered a motion to report House Bill No. 24 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 24 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, and Stagni voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 450 by Representative Abramson

On behalf of Representative Abramson, Representative Bouie presented House Bill No. 450, which provides relative to the Upper Audubon Security District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Huval offered a motion to report House Bill No. 450 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 450 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 451 by Representative Abramson

On behalf of Representative Abramson, Representative Bouie presented House Bill No. 451, which provides relative to the Audubon Area Security District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 451 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 451 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 16 by Representative McFarland

Representative McFarland presented House Bill No. 16, which authorizes the governing authority of the town of Jonesboro to levy and collect a hotel occupancy tax.

Representative Berthelot offered amendments to authorize the governing authority to use tax proceeds to fund tourism related activities within the town of Jonesboro. Representative Berthelot offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

James Bradford, mayor of Jonesboro, 1280 Allen Avenue, Jonesboro, LA, (318) 680-8078, spoke in support of House Bill No. 16.

Representative Huval offered a motion to report House Bill No. 16 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 16 was reported with amendments by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 19 by Representative Magee

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 19, which authorizes the imposition of community service as a possible penalty for a violation of any parish ordinance.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 19 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 19 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 12 by Representative Mack

Representative Mack presented House Bill No. 12, which provides relative to compensation for members of the Livingston Parish planning commission for attending meetings.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 12 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 12 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 88 by Representative Gregory Miller

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Bill No. 88, which authorizes the St. John the Baptist sheriff to name a law enforcement training facility in honor of retired St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff Lloyd B. Johnson.

Sheriff Mike Tregre, St. John the Baptist Parish, 1801 West Airline Highway, LaPlace, LA 70068, 585-652-9514, spoke in support of House Bill No. 88.

Toni J. Flynn, St. John the Baptist Parish office of the sheriff, 1801 West Airline Highway, LaPlace, LA 70068, spoke in support of House Bill No. 88.

Representative Billiot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 88 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 88 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 329 by Representative Bagneris

Representative Bagneris presented House Bill No. 329, which provides relative to the Lake Barrington Subdivision Improvement District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 329 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 329 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 76 by Representative Havard

House Bill No. 76 increases the maximum hotel occupancy tax authorized to be levied by the West Feliciana Parish Tourist Commission.

Representative White offered a motion to report House Bill No. 76 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 76 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

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

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Berthelot announced that House Bill No. 58 by Representative Pugh, which provides that the water company for Tangipahoa Parish collect sewerage bills, and House Bill No. 149 by Representative Johnson, which provides relative to employees of the Simmesport Housing Authority, would be rolled over to the April 27, 2017, meeting of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion to adjourn passed by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Richard, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman John A. Berthelot
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: