

House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Regular Session
May 24, 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 10:00 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 Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Barbara M. Norton
Representative Stephen E. Pugh
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Cedric B. Glover
Representative Mike Huval, vice chairman
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tina Righteous, attorney
Valarie Banks, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Carter Stone, clerk
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Ken'Travius Coleman, sergeant at arms
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms
Erin Mullins, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 83 by Senator Barrow

On behalf of Senator Barrow, Representative Marcelle presented Senate Bill No. 83, which provides for a hotel occupancy tax in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Paul Arrigo, Visit Baton Rouge, 359 Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 382-3583, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 83 and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Norton offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 83 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 83 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, 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.

Senate Bill No. 115 by Senator Appel

Senator Appel presented Senate Bill No. 115, which creates the University Neighborhood Security and Improvement District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Billiot offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 115 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 115 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 137 by Senator Johns

Senator Johns presented Senate Bill No. 137, which authorizes a referendum election on the lease of certain lands owned by the city of Lake Charles.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 137 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 137 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 246 by Senator Morrell

On behalf of Senator Morrell, Rodney Braxton, Southern Strategies Group, 543 Spanish Town Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 381-0166, presented Senate Bill No. 246, which authorizes the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board to sell its services to neighboring parishes.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 246 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 246 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 250 by Senator Boudreaux

Senator Boudreaux presented Senate Bill No. 250, which provides for the boundaries and governance of the Opelousas Downtown Development District and authorizes the district to create economic development districts.

Representative Dustin Miller, House District No. 40, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 250.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments to make changes to the district's boundaries and to require that the district's boundaries be referenced by original parcel numbers as of the effective date of proposed law. Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments to prohibit an elected official from serving on the district's governing board during his service in elective office. Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 250 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 250 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 252 by Senator Peterson

On behalf of Senator Peterson, Representative Bouie presented Senate Bill No. 252, which provides for the allocation of the local avails of the automobile rental tax.

Representative Norton offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 252 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 252 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS**Approval of Minutes of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs from the 2016 1st Extraordinary Session, March 2, 2016; the 2016 Regular Session, March 17, 24, 31, April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 25, and June 6, 2016; the 2016-2017 Interim, October 20, 2016; and the 2017 1st Extraordinary Session, February 17, 2017**

Representative Norton offered a motion to approve the minutes. Without objection, the minutes were approved by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Berthelot announced there may be a meeting of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs on Thursday, June 1, 2017, at 9 a.m., if Senate bills are referred to the committee prior to the scheduled meeting date.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative White offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion to adjourn passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, Dwight, Edmonds, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: