

House Committee on Ways and Means

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Regular Session
May 15, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Neil C. Abramson, Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. in Room 6, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Neil C. Abramson, chairman
Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.
Representative Chris Broadwater
Representative Paula P. Davis
Representative Phillip R. DeVillier
Representative Stephen C. Dwight
Representative Jimmy Harris
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Marcus L. Hunter
Representative Mike Huval
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Edward C. "Ted" James, II
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative John C. "Jay" Morris, III
Representative James H. "Jim" Morris, vice chairman
Representative Clay Schexnayder
Representative Alan Seabaugh
Representative Julie Stokes
Representative Major Thibaut

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Alison Pryor, deputy director
Ms. Elise C. Read, legislative analyst

Ms. Linda Hopkins, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Ms. Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

Ms. Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

Ms. Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 345 by Representative Davis

Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 345, a Constitutional Amendment to authorize a parish local option concerning the amount of assessed value at which the homestead exemption shall apply.

Representative Davis offered amendments to clarify the value of the homestead exemption, and she offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Broadwater, Davis, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, James, Johnson, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 345 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 345 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Broadwater, Davis, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, James, Johnson, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut voted yea.

House Bill No. 271 by Representative Hoffmann

Representative Hoffmann presented House Bill No. 271, which levies an additional state excise tax on vapor products and electronic cigarettes.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Abramson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 271. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 271 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 271 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 118 by Representative Hoffmann

Representative Hoffmann presented House Bill No. 118, which levies an additional state excise tax on cigarettes.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Abramson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 118. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 118 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 118 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 555 by Representative Jackson

Representative Jackson presented House Bill No. 555, which provides relative to the corporate income tax deduction for certain dividend income.

Representative Abramson offered amendments to add applicability provisions to the bill, and offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Schexnayder offered a motion to report House Bill No. 555 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 555 was reported with amendments by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 555 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 145 by Representative Garofalo

Representative Garofalo presented House Bill No. 145, a Constitutional Amendment to establish an ad valorem property tax exemption for the surviving spouse of a person who died while performing their duties as an emergency medical responder, technician, or paramedic.

Representative Abramson offered amendments to add an exemption for certain volunteer firefighters, certain law enforcement, and fire protection officers. Representative Abramson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 145 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 145 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 145 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 629 by Representative Anders

Representative Anders presented House Bill No. 629, which adds certain polyroll tubing to the definition of farm equipment for purposes of the state sales and use tax exemption for certain farm equipment.

Representative Thibaut offered amendments to change the effective date to October 1, 2017, and offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut voted yea.

Present to speak for information only was Commissioner Mike Strain, La. Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry, Third Floor, State Capitol, North Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-7270.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Abramson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 629 with amendments with recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Appropriations. Without objection, House Bill No. 629 was reported with amendments with recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Appropriations by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 629 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 221 by Representative McFarland

Representative McFarland presented House Bill No. 221, which provides for the state sales and use tax exclusion for pollution control machinery and equipment.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Jim Morris offered a motion to report House Bill No. 221 favorably with recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Appropriations. Without objection, House Bill No. 221 was reported favorably with recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Appropriations by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 221 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 461 by Representative Bishop

Representative Bishop presented House Bill No. 461, which provides for severance tax exemptions for certain inactive and orphan wells.

Representative Abramson offered amendments to add a limit on the duration of the exemptions July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022, and add technical changes regarding administration. Representative Abramson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Abramson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 461 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 461 was reported with amendments by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 461 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 641 by Representative McFarland

Representative McFarland presented House Bill No. 641, which establishes the La. Rural Jobs Act Tax Credit Program. (See Exhibit A)

Representative Broadwater offered amendments to change the department responsible for administering the program to the Dept. of Revenue; add provisions that allow the state to receive a portion of the distribution at the end of the program if certain conditions are not met; and provides for the percentage of the distribution to which the state will be entitled. Representative Broadwater also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Huval, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut voted yea.

Present to speak for information only were Commissioner Mike Strain, LA Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry, Third Floor, State Capitol, Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-7270, and Mr. Tony Toups III, Principal at Advantage Capital (no contact information given).

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Davis offered a motion to report House Bill No. 641 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 641 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, Huval, Johnson, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 641 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 307 by Representative Lyons

Representative Lyons presented House Bill No. 307, which requires a tax clearance from the Dept. of Revenue for certain licenses, permits, tax resale certificates, and state contracts.

Present to speak for information only were Secretary Kimberly Robinson and Mr. Luke Morris, Assistant Secretary, Office of Legal Affairs, LA Dept. of Revenue, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-2165.

Representative Abramson offered amendments to delete all amendments previously adopted on May 1, 2017, and to restrict applicability of proposed law to certain applications for sales tax resale certificates and certain state procurement contracts; add an exception to the confidentiality provisions of present law concerning the disclosure of certain taxpayer information by the secretary of the Dept. of Revenue; establish the procedure for the exchange of certain information; provide that a tax clearance certificate shall not be required for purposes of bidding or solicitation of a procurement contract; and authorize rulemaking. Representative Abramson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Hunter, Huval, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

Present to speak in opposition to House Bill No. 307 was Ms. Renee Amar, LA Association of Business and Industry, 3113 Valley Creek, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative James offered a motion to report House Bill No. 307 with amendments, to which Representative Seabaugh objected. The motion passed by a vote of 8 yeas, 6 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Bouie, Hunter, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea. Representatives DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Huval, Schexnayder, and Seabaugh voted nay. Representative Abramson abstained.

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 only on House Bill No. 307 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 427 by Representative Dustin Miller

Representative Dustin Miller presented House Bill No. 427, which provides relative to the tax credit for certain medical providers.

Representative Abramson offered amendments to change the rule promulgation authority to the Dept. of Revenue in consultation with LA Dept. of Health (LDH); clarify that LDH certifies the total amount of the tax credits and the Dept. of Revenue grants the tax credits; and make technical changes. Representative Abramson also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Hunter, Huval, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, and Schexnayder voted yea.

Present to speak for information only were Mr. Luke Morris, Assistant Secretary, LA Dept. of Revenue, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-2165, and Ms. Avis Richard, Primary Care and Rural Health, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500. There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative James offered a motion to report House Bill No. 427 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 427 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Hunter, Huval, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, and Schexnayder voted yea.

House Bill No. 582 by Representative Smith

Representative Smith presented House Bill No. 582, which provides relative to the telecommunications tax for the deaf.

Representative Abramson offered amendments to clarify the administration of the tax in proposed law with respect to prepaid 911 charges, and adds an effective date of Oct. 1, 2017. Representative Abramson also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Dwight, Hunter, Huval, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, and Schexnayder voted yea.

Present to speak for information only on House Bill No. 582 were Mr. Jay Isch, Commissioner, La. Commission for the Deaf, 1000 Renard Drive, Suite 9, Scott, LA 70583, (781) 500-0054, and Mr. Jimmy Challis Gore, Deaf Grassroots Movement, 464 East Boyd Drive, Apt. 8, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (240) 213-4434.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative James offered a motion to report House Bill No. 582 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 582 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 582 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 434 by Representative Smith

House Bill No. 434 reduces the amount of the rebate for taxpayer donations to school tuition organizations which provide scholarships for certain students to attend qualified schools.

There was no discussion on the bill.

Representative Abramson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 434. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 434 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 434 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 195 by Representative Reynolds

House Bill No. 195 provides relative to the tax treatment of certain corporeal movable property located in La. in a foreign trade zone.

There was no discussion on the bill.

Representative Abramson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 195. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 195 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 195 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 655 by Representative Reynolds

House Bill No. 655 provides with respect to the levy of state sales and use taxes on certain sales of services.

There was no discussion on the bill.

Representative Abramson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 655. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 655 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 655 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 669 by Representative Zeringue

House Bill No. 669 establishes a fee to fund dredging and deepening of waterways.

There was no discussion on the bill.

Representative Abramson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 669. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 669 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 669 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 508 by Representative James

Representative James presented House Bill No. 508, which authorizes a fee for the transfer of film tax credits.

Representative Abramson offered amendments to change the "notification of transfer" fee requirement to \$200 for projects that apply prior to July 1, 2017, and 2% of the tax credit transfer value for projects that apply on or after July 1, 2017; and change the effective date to conditional effectiveness based on passage of a Senate bill. Representative Abramson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Thibaut voted yea.

Present to speak for information on House Bill No. 508 was Ms. Mandi Mitchell, Assistant Secretary, LA Economic Development, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (800) 339-3146.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative James offered a motion to report House Bill No. 508 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 508 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Davis, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Jay Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

House Bill No. 534 by Representative James

Representative James presented House Bill No. 534, which authorizes a rebate for taxpayers who donate to certain higher education scholarship and grant programs.

Representative James offered amendments to prohibit more than 2% of each donation from being used on administrative costs; require that a donation be used to assist with costs of attending in-state postsecondary education institutions for students eligible to receive a GO Grant; and authorize rulemaking by the Department. Representative James also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Jay Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative James offered a motion to report House Bill No. 534 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 534 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Davis, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Jay Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

House Bill No. 631 by Representative Jay Morris

Representative Jay Morris presented House Bill No. 631, which provides relative to the cap on the amount of motion picture production tax credits paid each year.

Representative Jay Morris offered amendments to extend the \$180 million back-end annual aggregate cap on the amount of tax credits that may be paid to FY 21; and reduce the amount of the front-end annual aggregate cap on the amount of tax credits that may be certified each calendar year to \$150 million each calendar year. Representative Jay Morris also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Davis, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Jay Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Jay Morris offered a motion to report House Bill No. 631 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 631 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Davis, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Jay Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

House Bill No. 240 by Representative Broadwater

Representative Broadwater presented House Bill No. 240, which provides for applicability of the sales and use tax exclusions for certain tangible personal property purchased for lease or rental.

Representative Broadwater offered amendments to change effectiveness of the exemption to Oct. 1, 2017, and offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the

amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, James, Jay Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report House Bill No. 240 with amendments and the recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Appropriations. Without objection, House Bill No. 240 was reported with amendments and the recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Appropriations by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Stokes 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 only on House Bill No. 240 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 516 by Representative Broadwater

Representative Broadwater presented House Bill No. 516, which provides relative to the reductions to the rate of and exemptions from the severance tax.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 516. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 516 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Stokes voted yea.

House Bill No. 639 by Representative Schexnayder

Representative Schexnayder presented House Bill No. 639, which excludes compensation earned by certain out-of-state employees and nonresident businesses for disaster or emergency-related work performed during disaster periods from state income tax. (See Exhibit B)

Present to speak in support of House Bill No. 639 were Mr. George Sutton representing AT&T, 432 North Eighth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 205-6160, and Mr. Jody Montelaro, Entergy, 446 North Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 381-5865.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Schexnayder offered a motion to report House Bill No. 639 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 639 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Abramson, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Ivey, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 639 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 396 by Representative Dwight

Representative Dwight presented House Bill No. 396, which provides for the effectiveness and applicability of the state sales and use tax exclusion for sales of gold, silver, or numismatic coins, and platinum, gold, or silver bullion. (See Exhibit C)

Present to speak in support of House Bill No. 396 was Mr. Randy Haynie, La. Coin Dealers Association, P. O. Box 44032, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 336-4143.

Representative Dwight offered amendments to add a limitation on the exclusion for numismatic coins to those with sales of \$1,000 or less, or that are sold at a trade show; change the exclusion for platinum, gold, and silver bullion to include silver ingots and coins; change the effectiveness of proposed law for applicability for the exclusion for coins to Oct. 1, 2017; and change the effectiveness of proposed law for applicability for the exclusion for bullion to Oct. 1, 2017. Representative Dwight also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Ivey, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to report House Bill No. 396 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 396 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Ivey, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 396 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 646 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 646, which provides for changes to the sound recording investor tax credit and provides for the amount of the expenditure verification report fee and deposit.

Representative Abramson offered amendments to add definitions; delete references to an additional tax credit for investors with particular NAICS codes; provide for a project-based production credit; provide for a company-based QMC payroll credit for certain applications; add requirement that 50% of the annual cap be reserved for QMCs and caps the maximum amount of a credit at \$100,000 per project, per calendar year; add eligibility requirements for applicants. Representative Abramson also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Horton, Hunter, Ivey, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

Present to speak in support were Mr. Reid Wick, The Recording Academy, 2245 Audubon Street, New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 861-3701; Mr. Jay Weigel, The Recording Academy, 858 Amethyst Street, New Orleans, LA 70124, (504) 258-8299; and Mr. Ken Shepherd, The Recording Academy, 1085 Crouch Road, Benton, LA 71006, (318) 347-2215.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Abramson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 646 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 646 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Horton, Hunter, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 646 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 313 by Representative Stokes

Representative Stokes presented House Bill No. 313, which authorizes eligibility for the inventory tax credit for movables held by persons engaged in the short term rental of such items.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report House Bill No. 313 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 313 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Horton, Hunter, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 313 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 337 by Representative Stokes

Representative Stokes presented House Bill No. 337, which provides for an individual income tax credit for improvements made to the residences of individuals with certain disabilities. (See Exhibit D)

Representative Stokes offered amendments to add provisions for a priority order for certain taxpayers, and to claim the credit in the next calendar year and have priority over other claims. Representative Stokes also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Hunter, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

Present to speak in support were Mr. Andrew Baer, Multiple Sclerosis Society, 170030 Abite Avenue, Prairieville, LA 70769, (225) 938-0131, and Representative Scott Simon, District 74, P. O. Box 1297, Abita Springs, LA 70420, (985) 893-6246.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report House Bill No. 337 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 337 was reported with amendments by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Horton, Hunter, Ivey, James, Johnson, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 337 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 353 by Representative Stokes

Representative Stokes presented House Bill No. 353, a Constitutional Amendment to eliminate the income tax deduction for federal income taxes paid for purposes of computing individual income taxes and the references to the maximum amount of individual income tax rates and brackets. (See Exhibit E)

Representative Abramson offered amendments to add contingent effectiveness on Jan. 1, 2018, based on passage of other House bills. Representative Abramson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Stokes voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report House Bill No. 353 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 353 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Stokes 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 only on House Bill No. 353 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 501 by Representative Stokes

Representative Stokes presented House Bill No. 501, which changes the rates and brackets for purposes of calculating individual income tax liability and eliminates certain deductions and credits. (See Exhibit E)

Representative Stokes offered technical amendments and offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, Huval, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Stokes voted yea.

Representative Seabaugh offered amendments to delete the repeal of the educational tax credit; delete the repeal of the La. Citizens Property Insurance Corporation Assessment tax credit; and to allow staff to make technical changes. Representative Seabaugh offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, Huval, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Stokes voted yea.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report House Bill No. 501 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 501 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abramson, Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Hunter, Huval, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Schexnayder, Seabaugh, and Stokes 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 only on House Bill No. 501 is available upon request.

Vice Chair Jim Morris in chair.

House Bill No. 601 by Representative Stokes

Representative Stokes presented House Bill No. 601, which established the Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board and the Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers. (See Exhibit F)

Representative Stokes offered amendments to add authority for members of the La. Uniform Local Sales Tax Board (board) to appoint a designee for purposes of attendance at a tax protest hearing or a meeting of the board; change the term for board member appointments to the pleasure of the appointing authority; change the limitations on the annual amount of funding the board may receive; and add provisions concerning the board's budget. Representative Stokes also offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bouie, Broadwater, Davis, Horton, Hunter, Huval, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, and Stokes voted yea.

Present to speak in support were Mr. Mark West, Police Jury Association of La., 707 Seventh Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 715-2321; Mr. Greg Ruppert, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, P. O. Box 248, Harvey, LA 70058, (504) 376-2574; Mr. Roger Bergeron, La. Association of Tax Administrators, 547 Sixth Street, Port Allen, LA, (225) 937-4438; and Mr. Michael Ranatza, Executive Director, La. Sheriffs' Association, 1175 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 343-8402.

Present to speak in opposition were Mr. Scott Richard, La. School Boards Association, 7912 Summa, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 278-5398; and Mr. Dannie Garrett, La. State Bar Association, 635 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report House Bill No. 601 with amendments, to which Representative Bouie objected. House Bill No. 601 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Davis, Dwight, Horton, Ivey, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea. Representatives Bouie, DeVillier, Jimmy Harris, James, and Johnson 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 only on House Bill No. 601 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 640 by Representative Stokes

Representative Stokes presented House Bill No. 640, which provides for when a motion picture production tax credit is earned by a motion picture production company.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report House Bill No. 640 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 640 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Horton, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut 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 only on House Bill No. 640 is available upon request.

House Bill No. 300 by Representative Davis

Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 300, which provides relative to the amount of the research and development tax credit, and authorizes transferability of the credit under certain circumstances.

Representative Davis offered amendments to change the employee threshold for the 5% tax credit to one that employs 100 or more; reduce the amount of tax credit for a taxpayer that employs 50 - 99 persons to 10%; and redefine "base amount" for purposes of calculating the credit based on the number of employees. Representative Davis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

Present to speak for information was Ms. Mandi Mitchell, Assistant Secretary, La. Economic Development, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (800) 339-3146.

There was no further discussion on the bill.

Representative Davis offered a motion to report House Bill No. 300 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 300 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion to adjourn passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Davis, DeVillier, Dwight, Jimmy Harris, Horton, Ivey, James, Jay Morris, Jim Morris, Seabaugh, Stokes, and Thibaut voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Neil C. Abramson
House Committee on Ways and Means