

# House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development

Minutes of Meeting  
2018 Regular Session  
March 29, 2018

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Clay Schexnayder, chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

## II. ROLL CALL

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Clay Schexnayder, chairman  
Representative John F. "Andy" Anders, vice chairman  
Representative Ken Brass  
Representative Terry R. Brown  
Representative Charles R. Chaney  
Representative Julie Emerson  
Representative Jerry Gisclair  
Representative John E. Guinn  
Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall  
Representative Bob Hensgens  
Representative Frank A. Howard  
Representative H. Bernard LeBas  
Representative Steve E. Pylant  
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds  
Representative John M. Stefanski

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Phillip R. DeVillier  
Representative Dorothy Sue Hill  
Representative Dustin Miller

### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amanda Trapp, legislative analyst  
Karen Stephens, secretary

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Zaren James, division director  
Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

**Senate Bill No. 167 by Senator Thompson**

On behalf of Senator Thompson, Commissioner Mike Strain, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, (no address provided), presented Senate Bill No. 167, which re-creates the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry. He provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Guinn offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 167 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 167 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Brass, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Howard, Pylant, Reynolds, and Stefanski voted yea.

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

**House Bill No. 197 by Representative Reynolds**

Representative Reynolds presented House Bill No. 197, which prohibits the importation of live cervid.

Mr. Johnathan Bordelon, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 669 Highway 1192, Marksville, LA 71351, (318) 201-8124, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 197.

Representative Schexnayder offered amendments to:

- (1) Remove the importation ban on cervid under the authority of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry;
- (2) Clarify that certain Department of Wildlife and Fisheries provisions do not apply to licenses issued by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry; and
- (3) Make technical changes.

Representative Schexnayder offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives

Schexnayder, Anders, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Howard, LeBas, Pylant, Reynolds, and Stefanski voted yea.

Commissioner Mike Strain, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, (no address provided), spoke for information only on House Bill No. 197.

Secretary Jack Montoucet, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, (no address provided), spoke for information only on House Bill No. 197.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to report House Bill No. 197 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 197 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Howard, LeBas, Pylant, Reynolds, and Stefanski voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 for information only and 2 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 691 by Representative LeBas**

Representative LeBas presented House Bill No. 691, which repeals the sunset on assessments levied by the Louisiana Rice Research Board.

Mr. Richard Fontenot, Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, 3535 Vidrine Road, Ville Platte, LA 70586, (337) 831-1245, spoke in support of House Bill No. 691.

Commissioner Mike Strain, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, (no address provided), spoke for information only on House Bill No. 691.

Representative Guinn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 691 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 691 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Howard, LeBas, Pylant, Reynolds, and Stefanski voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 313 by Representative Anders**

Representative Anders presented House Bill No. 313, which provides for the frequency of meetings of the Louisiana Agricultural Commodities Commission.

Commissioner Mike Strain, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, (no address provided), (225) 342-7270, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 313.

Representative Schexnayder offered a motion to report House Bill No. 313 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 313 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Howard, LeBas, Pylant, Reynolds, and Stefanski voted yea.

**House Bill No. 393 by Representative Terry Brown**

Representative Terry Brown presented House Bill No. 393, which provides for the issuance and administration of market agency and livestock dealer permits.

Commissioner Mike Strain, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, (no address provided), spoke for information only on House Bill No. 393.

Representative Terry Brown offered amendments to:

- (1) Clarify the purpose of providing the true and legal name of the owner of the livestock is for livestock theft or violation of a quarantine issued by the Louisiana Board of Animal Health; and
- (2) Remove the provision that prohibits a person from intentionally misrepresenting the true and legal name of the buyer of livestock offered for sale.

Representative Terry Brown offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Howard, Pylant, Reynolds, and Stefanski voted yea.

Representative Terry Brown offered a motion to report House Bill No. 393 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 393 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Howard, Pylant, Reynolds, and Stefanski 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.

**House Bill No. 561 by Representative Emerson**

Representative Emerson presented House Bill No. 561, which repeals relative to retail florists and wholesale florists.

Representative Emerson Brown offered amendments to:

- (1) Create a floral dealer permit;
- (2) Add a flower dealer to the Horticulture Commission;
- (3) Establish a permit fee between \$70 and \$140 for each floral dealer;
- (4) Authorize the floral dealer permit holder to sell cut flowers and ornamental plants in pots;
- (5) Modify provisions regulating the operation of vending machines by restricting permittees to their respective parishes, no more than 25 miles beyond their place of business; and
- (6) Make technical changes.

Representative Emerson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Howard, LeBas, Pylant, Reynolds, and Stefanski voted yea.

Commissioner Mike Strain, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, (no address provided), spoke for information only on House Bill No. 561.

Mr. Ansel Rankins, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, 5825 Florida Boulevard, Suite 3002, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 952-8100, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 561.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to report House Bill No. 561 with amendments, to which Representative Pylant objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 561 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Brass, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Reynolds, and Stefanski voted yea. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Terry Brown, Chaney, Howard, and Pylant voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 19 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 624 by Representative Schexnayder**

On behalf of Representative Schexnayder, Commissioner Mike Strain, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, (no address provided), presented House Bill No. 624, which provides relative to the Commission of Weights and Measures.

Representative Schexnayder offered an amendment to make a technical change. Representative Schexnayder offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Brass, Terry Brown, Chaney, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Howard, Pylant, and Reynolds voted yea.

Representative Terry Brown offered a motion to report House Bill No. 624 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 624 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Brass, Terry Brown, Chaney, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hensgens, Howard, Pylant, and Reynolds voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 for information only and 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Clay Schexnayder  
House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development

Date adopted: