

House Committee on Appropriations

Minutes of Meeting
2018 Regular Session
April 16, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Cameron Henry, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m. in Room 5, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Cameron Henry, Chairman
Representative Mark Abraham
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Tony Bacala
Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative John A. Berthelot
Representative Robert E. Billiot
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr.
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Reid Falconer
Representative Franklin J. Foil, Vice Chairman
Representative Lance Harris
Representative Bob Hensgens
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Jack G. McFarland
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Steve E. Pylant
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Scott M. Simon
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative James K. Armes, III

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Katie Andress, Secretary

Mr. Peter G. E. Conroy, Legislative Analyst

Ms. Elise C. Read, Legislative Analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Ms. Faye Talbot, Sergeant at Arms

Ms. Michaela Wells, Sergeant at Arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 1 by Representative Henry**

Representative Henry offered a motion to approve the late submission of LATAN's request for funding in House Bill No. 1. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 22 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Foil, Lance Harris, Hensgens, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Richard, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Henry presented House Bill No. 1, which provides for the ordinary operating expenses of state government for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Representative Foil offered amendments which allocate certain funds for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) and for the GO Grant Program. Representative Foil offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Leger objected. The secretary called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Edmonds, Falconer, Foil, Lance Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Richard, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Gary Carter, Chaney, Leger, Dustin Miller, and Smith voted nay.

Representative Henry offered "in globo" amendments, Exhibit A, which are included in the committee records. Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Leger objected. The secretary called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Edmonds, Falconer, Foil, Lance Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant,

Richard, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Leger, Dustin Miller, and Smith voted nay.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to provide for certain allocations for the Department of Economic Development in FY18-19. Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Gary Carter objected. The secretary called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Chaney, Falconer, Foil, Lance Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Billiot, Gary Carter, Edmonds, Leger, Dustin Miller, Richard, and Smith voted nay.

Representative Leger offered "in globo" amendments, Exhibit B, which are included in the committee records. Representative Leger offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Henry objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 6 yeas and 18 nays. Representatives Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Leger, Dustin Miller, and Smith voted yea. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Edmonds, Falconer, Foil, Lance Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Richard, Simon, and Zeringue voted nay.

Representative Bacala offered amendments which increase certain amounts of State General Fund Direct to certain state expenditures in FY18-19. Representative Bacala offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Gary Carter objected. The secretary called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 19 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Foil, Lance Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Richard, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Billiot, Gary Carter, Leger, Dustin Miller, and Smith voted nay.

Commissioner Jay Dardenne, Division of Administration, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-210, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7000, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1.

Mr. W. Jeff Reynolds, Undersecretary for the Louisiana Department of Health, P.O. Box 3797, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 664-1716, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1.

Mr. Chris Keaton, Budget Deputy Director, House Fiscal Division, 900 North Third Street, 11th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-8965, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1.

Mr. Michael Ranatza, Executive Director of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association, 1175 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 343-8402, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1.

Representative Foil offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1 with amendments, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 1 was reported with amendments by a vote of 18 yeas and 6 nays.

Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Edmonds, Falconer, Foil, Lance Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Richard, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Leger, Dustin Miller, and Smith voted nay.

Representative Henry offered a motion to allow the staff to make technical changes to House Bill No. 1. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 23 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Foil, Lance Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Richard, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Henry offered a motion to make House Bill No. 1 special order for April 19, 2018. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 23 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Foil, Lance Harris, Hensgens, Hodges, Leger, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Richard, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 698 by Representative Henry

Representative Henry presented House Bill No. 698, which appropriates funds for the expenses of the judiciary for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Representative Henry offered amendments which: (1) provide for a change in means of financing to decrease State General Fund (Direct) and increase Interagency Transfers from the Dept. of Children and Family Services by \$9,392,850 for support of drug courts and the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program; and (2) add a requirement that appropriations contained in this Act be reduced by a total amount of \$16,588,993, pursuant to a plan adopted by the Judicial Budgetary Control Board, or as provided by the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Richard, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Bacala offered amendments which remove funding from the District Courts appropriation for various activities, staff, officers, and functions for the Criminal Court for Orleans Parish in the total amount of \$3,731,858. Representative Bacala offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Leger objected. The secretary called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Chaney, Edmonds, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Richard, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Billiot, Gary Carter, Leger, Dustin Miller, and Smith voted nay.

Justice Marcus Clark, Louisiana Supreme Court, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70131, (318) 1965, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 698.

Mr. Bryan Wolff, Budget Director, Louisiana Supreme Court, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70131, (504) 310-2518, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 698.

Justice Greg Guidry, Louisiana Supreme Court, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70131, (504) 310-2550, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 698.

Justice Jimmy Genovese, Louisiana Supreme Court, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70131, (504) 310-2300, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 698.

Representative Henry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 698 with amendments, to which Representative Leger objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 698 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Chaney, Edmonds, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Richard, Simon, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Billiot, Gary Carter, Leger, Dustin Miller, and Smith voted nay.

Representative Henry offered a motion to make House Bill No. 698 special order for April 19, 2018. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 694 by Representative Henry

On behalf of Representative Henry, Ms. Ternisa Hutchinson, Deputy Director, Office of Planning and Budget, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-120, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7005, presented House Bill No. 694, which provides for the ancillary expenses of state government.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 694 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 694 was reported favorably by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Henry offered a motion to make House Bill No. 694 special order for April 19, 2018. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 751 by Speaker Barras

On behalf of Speaker Barras, Representative Henry presented House Bill No. 751, which makes appropriations for the expenses of the legislature for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Representative Henry offered amendments which reduced appropriations by a total amount of \$12,082,518. Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Commissioner Dardenne spoke for information only on House Bill No. 751.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 751 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 751 was reported with amendments by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Henry offered a motion to make House Bill No. 751 special order for April 19, 2018. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 379 by Representative Henry

Representative Henry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 379, which provides for the transfer, deposit, and use of certain treasury funds. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 379 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 874 by Representative Henry

Representative Henry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 874, which makes supplemental appropriations for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 874 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 743 by Representative Henry

Representative Henry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 743, which provides for Revenue Sharing Distribution for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 743 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Leger, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Simon, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Cameron Henry
House Committee on Appropriations