

## **House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs**

Minutes of Meeting  
2018 Regular Session  
April 11, 2018

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative, chairman of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. in Room 2, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Jimmy Harris  
Representative Lance Harris  
Representative Barry Ivey  
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.  
Representative Gregory A. Miller  
Representative John C. "Jay" Morris, III  
Representative Stephen E. Pugh, vice chairman  
Representative Robert E. Shadoin  
Representative Michael E. Danahay, chairman

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr.  
Representative Dorothy Sue Hill

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst  
Mark Mahaffey, attorney  
Shawn O'Brien, secretary

#### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Michaela Wells, sergeant at arms  
Christina Porter, clerk

### **III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

**House Bill No. 733 by Representative Billiot**

House Bill No. 733 prohibits video and audio recordings of hearings by the Board of Pardons and committee on parole.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 733. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 733 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

**House Bill No. 649 by Representative Gaines**

House Bill No. 649 provides for automatic voter registration through driver's license facilities.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 649. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 649 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay 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. 739 by Representative Gregory Miller**

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Bill No. 739, which requires a statement and certification rather than an affidavit for certain disclosures by legislators to the ethics board relative to speeches.

Representative Gregory Miller offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 739. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 739 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

Representative Gregory Miller offered a motion to reconsider the vote by which House Bill No. 739 had been voluntarily deferred. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

Representative Gregory Miller offered a motion to report House Bill No. 739 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 739 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay 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. 740 by Representative Gregory Miller**

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Bill No. 740, which provides for certain clerk of court filing requirements.

Representative Danahay offered a technical amendment. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed technical amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

Representative Gregory Miller offered a motion to report House Bill No. 740 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 740 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay 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. 628 by Representative Hunter**

Representative Hunter presented House Bill No. 628, which provides for automatic voter registration through driver's license facilities and removes the age limit for a child to accompany a parent or guardian into the voting machine.

Representative Danahay offered amendments to remove provisions relative to voter registration and to limit the proposed law authorization for a child to accompany a parent or guardian into the voting machine to a child who is under the age of 18. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

Representative Shadoin offered a motion to report House Bill No. 628 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 628 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay 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. 738 by Representative Hunter**

Representative Hunter presented House Bill No. 738, which provides an ethics exception to allow legislators, statewide elected officials, specified public servants, immediate family members, and related legal entities to enter into contracts to be a public defender.

Representative Danahay offered a technical amendment. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed technical amendment. Without objection, the technical amendment was adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

Kathleen M. Allen, Louisiana Board of Ethics, P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, 225-219-5600, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 738.

Representative Shadoin offered a motion to report House Bill No. 738 with amendments, to which Representative Gregory Miller objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 3 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea. Representatives Lance Harris, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, and Pugh voted nay.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 738. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 738 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

**House Bill No. 265 by Representative Smith**

Representative Smith presented House Bill No. 265, which provides relative to registration and voting by a person convicted of a felony.

Bruce Reilly, V.O.T.E., 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA, 504-758-9420, spoke in support of House Bill No. 265.

Norris Henderson, V.O.T.E., 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, 504-453-4819, spoke in support of House Bill No. 265.

Judge Miriam A. Waltzer, retired, National Council of Jewish Women, 6221 South Claiborne Ave., #208, New Orleans, LA 70125, 504-826-9007, spoke in support of House Bill No. 265.

Karla Garner, Project Restoration, 109 Valley Hill Drive, West Monroe, LA 71291, 337-303-4853, spoke in support of House Bill No. 265.

Carol DeVille, League of Women Voters of Louisiana, 247 Coleman Loop, Homer, LA 71040, 318-927-9551, spoke in support of House Bill No. 265.

Whalen Gibbs, Jr., American Probation and Parole Association, 102 Pintail Dr., Lafayette, LA 70507, 337-234-3469, spoke in support of House Bill No. 265.

Lawrence N. Powell, Voice of Experience, no address provided, 504-554-1003, spoke in support of House Bill No. 265.

Checo Yancy, V.O.T.E., 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, spoke in support of House Bill No. 265.

Kyle Ardoin, first assistant secretary of state, P. O. Box 91425, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, 225-287-7476, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 265.

Lani Durio, Secretary of State's office, 8585 Archives Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, 225-922-2880, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 265.

Representative Jenkins offered a motion to report House Bill No. 265 favorably, to which Representative Ivey objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 265 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Jimmy Harris, Lance Harris, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea. Representatives Ivey and Jay Morris voted nay.

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

#### **House Bill No. 417 by Representative Ivey**

Representative Ivey presented House Bill No. 417, which provides relative to registration and voting by a person convicted of a felony.

Representative Lance Harris offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 417, to which Representative Ivey offered a substitute motion to report House Bill No. 417 favorably, to which Representative Lance Harris objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 2 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Ivey and Shadoin voted yea. Representatives Lance Harris, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, and Danahay voted nay.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 417. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 417 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Lance Harris, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, 2 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 693 by Representative Norton**

House Bill No. 693 creates a legislative advisory task force on conducting of school board meetings.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 693. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 693 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Lance Harris, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 243 by Representative Talbot**

Representative Talbot presented House Bill No. 243, which prohibits a manufacturer or wholesale distributor from engaging in price gouging in the sale of an essential off-patent or generic drug.

Representative Danahay announced that the bill had been dual-referred to the committee because of a public records provision included.

Representative Danahay offered amendments to require, rather than authorize, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health to notify the attorney general of certain increases in price of off-patent or generic drugs and specify that the notification shall be quarterly; to change a trigger for the notification from an increase of 50% or more in the wholesale acquisition cost of the drug within the preceding one-year period to an increase of 50% or more in the average wholesale acquisition cost of the drug within the preceding calendar year; and to remove the trigger for the notification regarding the price paid by the medical assistance program for the drug if the drug would cost more than \$100 at the drug's wholesale acquisition cost under various circumstances.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Lance Harris, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay voted yea.

Representative Gregory Miller offered a motion to report House Bill No. 243 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 243 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Lance Harris, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Jay Morris, Pugh, Shadoin, and Danahay 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.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Representative Danahay introduced former chairman of the Committee on House and Governmental Affairs and current president of Grambling State University, Rick Gallot, and president of McNeese University, Darryl Brickell.

The committee acknowledged Representative Danahay's service as chairman of the committee and wished him well in his new role as Mayor of Sulphur, Louisiana.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Michael E. Danahay  
House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_

The committee has acknowledged on \_\_\_\_\_, that these minutes were prepared in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives.