

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2018 Regular Session
March 22, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Marcus L. Hunter
Representative Katrina R. Jackson
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative H. Bernard LeBas
Representative J. Rogers Pope
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Bob Hensgens, vice chairman
Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Helena N. Moreno
Representative Julie Stokes

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bethany Blackson, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Felicie Jackson, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Nevonda Reed, division director
Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms
Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms
Malik Smith, committee clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 148 by Representative Falconer**

Representative Falconer presented House Bill No. 148, which provides for implementation of the zero suicide initiative and a state suicide prevention plan.

Dr. Ann Conn, 49 Hummingbird Rd, Covington, LA, 70433, (504) 577-3035, spoke in support of House Bill No. 148.

Anthony Germade, NAMI Louisiana, 307 France St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 291-6262, spoke in support of House Bill No. 148.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 148 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 148 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Jackson, LeBas, Pope, Richard, Stagni, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support, 0 in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 364 by Representative Jackson

Representative Jackson presented House Bill No. 364, which establishes a workforce training pilot initiative to serve public assistance recipients in certain parishes.

Representative Jackson offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Jackson, LeBas, Pope, Richard, Stagni, and Hoffmann voted yea.

The committee stood at ease at 9:52 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

Chris Broadwater, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, 265 S Foster Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (985) 634-3283, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 364.

Representative Richard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 364 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 364 was reported by substitute by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Johnson, LeBas, Pope, Richard, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 479 by Representative LeBas

Representative Hoffmann announced that action on House Bill No. 479, which requires the Louisiana Department of Health to present an annual report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget on efforts to encourage expansion and development of FQHC's, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 238 by Representative McFarland

Representative McFarland presented House Bill No. 238, which provides relative to the state medical assistance program.

Representative Pope offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill.

Representative Pope offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Johnson, LeBas, Pope, Richard, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to report House Bill No. 238 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 238 was reported by substitute by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Johnson, LeBas, Pope, Richard, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 198 by Representative Simon

Representative Simon presented House Bill No. 198, which provides relative to distribution of funding from the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report House Bill No. 198 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 198 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Johnson, LeBas, Pope, Richard, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, 0 in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 480 by Representative Bacala

Representative Bacala presented House Bill No. 480, which provides for Medicaid eligibility determination functions and Medicaid fraud detection and prevention.

Linda Hawkins, League of Women Voters of Louisiana, 22271 Main St, Abita Springs, La 70420, (985) 809-3983, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 480.

Daryl Purpera, Legislative Auditor, 1600 N 3rd St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 405-2871, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 480.

Luke Morris, Louisiana Department of Revenue, 617 N 3rd St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-2165, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 480.

Representative Hensgens is in the chair.

Jeff Reynolds, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 480.

Representative Hoffmann is in the chair.

Representative Jackson offered an amendment in concept, which proposed to remove all language referencing tax returns. After further discussion, Representative Jackson withdrew the amendment.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 480 favorably, to which Representative Jackson objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 480 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Pope, Richard, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea. Representatives Hunter, Jackson, and Johnson voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, 1 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 339 by Representative Jackson

Representative Jackson presented House Bill No. 339, which provides relative to the practice of telemedicine.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 339 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 339 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Hunter, Jackson, Johnson, Pope, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. 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 12:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Frank A. Hoffmann
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: