

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

Minutes of Meeting
2019 Regular Session
May 8, 2019

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 10:09 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 Ryan Joseph Bourriaque
Representative Terry R. Brown
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Phillip R. DeVillier
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative John E. Guinn
Representative Dorothy Sue Hill
Representative Frank A. Howard
Representative H. Bernard LeBas
Representative Wayne McMahan
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Christopher Turner

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Kendricks "Ken" Brass
Representative Jerry Gisclair
Representative Steve E. Pylant
Representative John M. Stefanski

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amanda Trapp, legislative analyst
Karen Stephens, secretary
Zaren James, division director

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

David Koke, clerk
Wylene Hurst, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 564 by Representative Jordan

On behalf of Representative Jordan, Representative Schexnyder presented House Bill No. 564, which provides relative to the regulation of cannabis. There was no discussion on the bill.

Representative Schexnayder offered a motion to report House Bill No. 564 without action with recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Judiciary. Without objection, House Bill No. 564 was reported without action with recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Bourriaque, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Guinn, Hill, Howard, McMahan, and Turner voted yea.

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

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

The minutes from the 2018 Regular Session dated March 29, April 18, and May 3 were presented to the committee for approval. Representative Schexnayder offered a motion to approve the minutes. Without objection, the minutes were approved by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Anders, Bourriaque, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Guinn, Hill, Howard, McMahan, and Turner voted yea.

Presentation by the Future Farmers of America

Ms. Brooklyn Hampton, state president, Louisiana Future Farmers of America (FFA), no address provided, (318) 663-1455, spoke for information only on the first part of the PowerPoint presentation, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Mr. William Gaspard, Jr., area three vice president, Louisiana FFA, no address provided, (318) 359-1451, spoke for information only on the second part of the PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Kerington Bass, area one vice president, Louisiana FFA, no address or phone number provided, spoke for information only on the third part of the PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Sara Toal, area two vice president, Louisiana FFA, no address or phone number provided, spoke for information only on the fourth part of the PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Taylor Perrodin, Louisiana FFA, no address or phone number provided, spoke for information only on the fifth part of the PowerPoint presentation.

Oversight hearing on the Emergency Rule submitted by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry on April 26, 2019, to amend the medical marijuana program regulations

On behalf of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Commissioner Mike Strain, State Capitol, 3rd Floor, (225) 342-7270, spoke for information only about the committee's oversight of the proposed emergency rule to amend the medical marijuana program regulations. He provided a copy of the rule, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Ms. Tabitha Irvin, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, 5825 Florida Boulevard, Suite 2000, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-1244, spoke for information only on the proposed emergency rule.

Mr. Hampton Grunewald, LSU AgCenter, no address or phone number provided, spoke for information only on the proposed emergency rule. He provided copies of correspondence from the LSU AgCenter to Representative Schexnayder and to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Exhibit C, which are included in the committee records.

Ms. Ashley Mullens, LSU AgCenter, no address or phone number provided, spoke for information only on the proposed emergency rule.

Mr. Danny Ford, Louisiana Association for Therapeutic Alternatives, 143 Cloud Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 247-4100, spoke for information only on the proposed emergency rule.

Representative Turner offered a motion to find the proposed emergency rule unacceptable. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Bourriaque, Terry Brown, Chaney, Emerson, Guinn, Howard, LeBas, McMahan, Dustin Miller, and Turner voted yea.

Subsequent to this meeting: On behalf of the committee, staff prepared a letter to Governor Jon Bel Edwards to inform him of the committee's findings, Exhibit D, which is included in the committee records.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: