

House Committee on Appropriations

Minutes of Meeting
2019 Regular Session
April 30, 2019

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.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Cameron Henry, chairman
Representative Franklin J. Foil, vice chairman
Representative Mark Abraham
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative James K. Armes, III
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 Julie Emerson
Representative Reid Falconer
Representative Lance Harris
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Jack G. McFarland
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Steve E. Pylant
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Scott M. Simon

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alexis Normand, attorney
Adrienne Wood, attorney
Jane Schoen, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms
Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 62 by Representative Steve Carter**

Representative Steve Carter presented House Bill No. 62, a constitutional amendment, which provides for appropriations from the Education Excellence Fund for certain schools.

Ms. Erin Bendily, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, no address or phone number provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 62.

Representative Henry offered amendments to: (1) add the La. Educational Television Authority as a recipient of the Education Excellence Fund with an appropriation of \$75,000 from the fund; and (2) change the recipient of the Education Excellence Fund from a school or school system to an entity. Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Hodges offered a motion to report House Bill No. 62 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 62 was reported with amendments by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support.

House Bill No. 87 by Representative Leopold

Representative Leopold presented House Bill No. 87, which provides for supplemental pay for fire protection officers of the Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District.

Mr. Donald Durr, Plaquemines Port, P.O. Box 347, Belle Chasse, LA 70037, (504) 912-3837, spoke in support of House Bill No. 87.

Mr. Paul Matthews, Plaquemines Port, 8056 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037, (504) 579-4015, spoke in support of House Bill No. 87.

Ms. Jennifer Marusak, Ports Association of Louisiana, P.O. Box 1331, Chalmette, LA 70044, (225) 572-1916, spoke in support of House Bill No. 87.

Representative Abraham offered a motion to report House Bill No. 87 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 87 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support.

House Bill No. 107 by Representative Pugh

Representative Pugh presented House Bill No. 107, which authorizes supplemental pay for certain university or college police officers.

Mr. Johnathan Edwards, Southeastern University Police Dept., 16454 Highway 40, Independence, LA 70443, (985) 969-3148, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 107.

Mr. Tom Torregrossa, University of Louisiana at Monroe, 3811 Desinad Street, Monroe, LA, (318) 376-3928, spoke in support of House Bill No. 107.

Mr. Will Scheufens, Chief of Police, McNeese State University, 4314 Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA, (337) 475-5711, spoke in support of House Bill No. 107.

Mr. Randal Hermes, University Police, Louisiana Tech, Ruston, LA, (318) 278-5059, spoke in support of House Bill No. 107.

Ms. Joycelyn Johnson, Chief, Southern University Police Department, 801 Harding Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70813, (225) 771-2770, spoke in support of House Bill No. 107.

Mr. Jim Henderson, President, University of Louisiana System, Claiborne, (318) 426-7104, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 107.

Mr. Bart Thompson, Louisiana State University Police Department, 101 Public Safety Building, LSU Campus, (225) 337-1481, spoke in support of House Bill No. 107.

Mr. Craig Vercher, Chief, Northwestern University Police Department, (no address or phone number provided), spoke in support of House Bill No. 107.

Mr. Tim Hanks, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 210 Hebrard Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70504, (337) 482-6449, spoke in support of House Bill No. 107.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support; 1 for information only.

Representative Henry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 107. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 107 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Foil, Abraham, Amedée, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 591 by Representative Guinn

Representative Guinn presented House Bill No. 591, which dedicates the avails of state sales and use taxes on purchases of motor vehicles to the Construction Subfund in the Transportation Trust Fund.

Mr. Jesse McCormick, Capitol Partners, 532 Spanish Town Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 202-1875, spoke in support of House Bill No. 591.

Mr. Chance McNeely, Louisiana Motor Transport Association (LMTA), 4838 Bennington Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (318) 518-5367, spoke in support of House Bill No. 591.

Representative Henry offered amendments to implement the avails of sales tax for title vehicles in the state over a 15-year period. Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Foil, Abraham, Amedée, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Henry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 591. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 591 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Foil, Abraham, Amedée, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support.

House Bill No. 170 by Representative Jones

Representative Bishop, co-author, presented House Bill No. 170, which provides relative to financial security for surviving spouses and children of certain cadets.

Mr. Butch Browning, State Fire Marshal, 8181 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 806-0803, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 170.

Representative Zeringue offered amendments to add cadets participating in the La. State Police Training Academy on or after July 1, 2018, to the listing of law enforcement officers whose surviving spouses and dependent children are eligible to receive financial security. Representative Zeringue 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, Foil, Abraham, Amedée, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 170 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 170 was reported with amendments by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Foil, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Miguez, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support; 1 for information only.

House Bill No. 93 by Representative Mack

Representative Mack presented House Bill No. 93, which increases the amount of supplemental pay for eligible law enforcement and fire protection officers.

Mr. Chad Major, Professional Firefighters Association, 8264 One Calais Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 572-8483, spoke in support of House Bill No. 93.

Mr. Chris Stewart, International Union of Police Associations (IUPA), 838 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 938-1105, spoke in support of House Bill No. 93.

Representative Henry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 93. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 93 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Foil, Abraham, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, McFarland, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 21 in support.

House Bill No. 147 by Representative Edmonds

Representative Edmonds presented House Bill No. 147, which restricts spending of the state general fund (direct) from recurring money to 98% of the official forecast.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Bill No. 147 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 147 was reported favorably by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support; 1 in opposition.

Representative Miguez in the chair.

House Bill No. 313 by Representative Wright

Representative Wright presented House Bill No. 313, which limits monies deposited into the Transportation Trust Fund from being used to pay for certain Dept. of Transportation and Development expenses.

Mr. Alan Boxberger, Legislative Fiscal Office, 900 North Third Street, 18th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7233, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 313.

Representative Henry offered amendments to require authorization in a general appropriation bill for the DOTD to use monies in the TTF for employees' and retirees' salaries and benefits. Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Chairman Henry in the chair.

Representative Bacala offered amendments to delay implementation of the limitation placed on the Dept. of Transportation and Development's use of the monies deposited into the TTF by one fiscal year. Representative Bacala offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Bill No. 313 with amendments, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 313 was reported

with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Henry, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Dustin Miller and Smith voted nay.

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

House Bill No. 578 by Representative Magee

Representative Zeringue, co-author, presented House Bill No. 578, which dedicates the economic proceeds from the Deepwater Horizon litigation to transportation projects and redirects funding to the Construction Subfund of the Transportation Trust Fund.

Senator Rick Ward, co-author of House Bill No. 578, District 17, 3741 Highway 1, Port Allen, LA 70767, (225) 246-8838, spoke in sponsorship of the measure.

Mr. Jesse McCormick, Capital Partners, 532 Spanish Town Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 202-1875, spoke in support of House Bill No. 591.

Mr. Riley Berthelot, West Baton Rouge Parish President, P.O. Box 757, Port Allen, LA 70767, (225) 383-4755, spoke in support of House Bill No. 591.

Representative Henry offered amendments to: (1) change the fiscal years of the annual payments from the Deepwater Horizon Economic Damages Collection Fund for the phase 2 of the LA 1 Improvement Project between Golden Meadow, LA and Leesville, LA from 2020-2026 to 2021-2026; and (2) change the fiscal years of the annual payments from the Deepwater Horizon Economic Damages and Collection Fund for the planning and construction of the LA 415 Bridge at the Intracoastal Canal from 2020-2025 to 2021-2025.

Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Amedée offered a motion to report House Bill No. 578 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 578 was reported with amendments by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Foil, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 511 by Representative Abraham

Representative Abraham presented House Bill No. 511, which creates the Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund for the purpose of funding degree and certificate programs in cybersecurity fields and the Cybersecurity Education Management Council to advise relative to the fund.

Representative Foil offered a motion to report House Bill No. 511 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 511 was reported favorably by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Foil, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 414 by Representative Davis

Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 414, which dedicates certain state sales and use tax revenues for deposit into the Construction Subfund of the Transportation Trust Fund.

Representative Bacala offered conceptual amendments to change the amount of state sales and use tax revenues to be deposited into the Construction Subfund of the Transportation Trust Fund from all revenues exceeding \$4 billion to up to \$250 million. Representative Bacala offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Foil, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Bill No. 414 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 414 was reported with amendments by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Foil, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Miguez in the chair.

House Bill No. 610 by Representative Miguez

Representative Miguez presented House Bill No. 610, which dedicates certain sales and use taxes.

Representative Miguez offered amendments to add St. John the Baptist, St. James, and St. Charles parishes to entities receiving the dedications of the .45% levy of state sales and use tax collected on hotel rooms. Representative Miguez offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham,

Amedée, Bacala, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Dustin Miller offered amendments to add St. Landry Parish to entities receiving the dedications of the .45% levy of state sales and use tax collected on hotel rooms. Representative Dustin Miller offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Miguez offered a motion to report House Bill No. 610 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 610 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 479 by Representative Gary Carter

Representative Gary Carter presented House Bill No. 479, which establishes the New Orleans Ferry Fund and provides for the use of the monies in the fund.

Representative Gary Carter offered amendments to add and create the Regional Maintenance and Improvement Fund for collection of fees and distribution of the funds collected in Orleans, Jefferson, St. John the Baptist, St. Charles, Tangipahoa, and St. Tammany Parishes. Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 479 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 479 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Falconer, Lance Harris, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 486 by Representative Gary Carter

Representative Gary Carter presented House Bill No. 486, which allows for the use of the Budget Stabilization Fund for the state costs associated with a declared disaster.

Representative Gary Carter offered amendments to change the effectiveness of the bill to July 1, 2019. Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée,

Armes, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Falconer, Lance Harris, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 486 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 486 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Miguez, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 333 by Representative Connick

Representative Connick presented House Bill No. 333, which creates the State Use Council for the Purchase of Goods and Services Provided by Individuals with Disabilities and institutes "supported employment provider" in laws on public procurement, public contracts, taxation, and work release programs.

Representative Berthelot offered amendments to make a technical correction to reinstate "sheltered workshops" for work release programs, job credits, and tax exemptions. Representative Berthelot offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Miguez, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 333 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 333 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Amedée, Armes, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Lance Harris, Miguez, Pylant, and Smith voted yea.

House Bill No. 442 by Representative Ivey

Representative Ivey presented House Bill No. 442, a constitutional amendment, which establishes the State Cybersecurity and Information Technology Infrastructure Fund and dedicates revenues into the fund.

Representative Miguez offered amendments to (1) change the name of the fund to The State Cybersecurity and Information Technology Fund; (2) change the dedication amount to 25 hundreds of 1% of the revenues that follow through the Bond Security and Redemption Fund; and (3) remove the legislative authority to change the source of the funds. Representative Miguez offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Hodges, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Miguez offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 442. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 442 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Bacala, Bagley, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Hodges, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 448 by Representative Ivey

Representative Ivey presented House Bill No. 448, which establishes The State Cybersecurity and Information Technology Infrastructure Fund and dedicates revenues into the fund.

Representative Miguez offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 448. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 448 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Gary Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Lance Harris, Hodges, McFarland, Miguez, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

IV. BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Bagley offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Abraham, Bacala, Bagley, Billiot, Chaney, Edmonds, Falconer, Hodges, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Pylant, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Cameron Henry
House Committee on Appropriations