

## **House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure**

Minutes of Meeting  
2019 Regular Session  
April 16, 2019

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

Representative Raymond E. Garofalo, Jr., chairman of the House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure, called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Raymond E. Garofalo, Jr., chairman  
Representative Raymond J. Crews  
Representative Mary DuBuisson  
Representative Randal L. Gaines, vice chairman  
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.  
Representative Michael T. Johnson  
Representative Tanner D. Magee  
Representative Alan Seabaugh

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Robby Carter

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

Robert A. Singletary, attorney  
Annie Smith, attorney  
Stephanie Weinman, secretary

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

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms  
Madison Ramsey, clerk  
Madeleine Murphy, clerk

### III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

#### **House Bill No. 190 by Representative Seabaugh**

Representative Seabaugh presented House Bill No. 190, which provides relative to appeals from city and parish court judgments.

Representative Seabaugh offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 190. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 190 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Garofalo, Crews, DuBuisson, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Magee, and Seabaugh voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 425 by Representative Jackson**

Representative Jackson presented House Bill No. 425, a constitutional amendment which stipulates that no provision of the constitution protects a right to abortion or requires the funding of abortion.

Matthew Block, Office of Governor John Bel Edwards, spoke in support of House Bill No. 425.

Dr. Kathy Allen, Ph.D., Louisiana Black Advocates for Life, P.O. Box 61141, Lafayette, LA 70596, (337) 290-9595, spoke in support of House Bill No. 425.

On behalf of Representative Jackson, Representative Seabaugh offered an amendment to change the voting date to October 12, 2019. Representative Seabaugh offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Garofalo, Crews, DuBuisson, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Magee, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Ben Clapper, Louisiana Right to Life, 200 Robert E. Lee Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124, (504) 835-6520, spoke in support of House Bill No. 425.

Dorinda Bordlee, Bioethics Defense Fund, 3312 Cleary Ave., Metairie, LA 70002, (504) 231-7234, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 425.

Liz Murrill, Attorney General's Office, 6885 S. Fieldgate Ct., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 326-6766, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 425.

On behalf of Representative Jackson, Representative Seabaugh offered an amendment to change the ballot language. Representative Seabaugh offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Garofalo, Crews, DuBuisson, Gaines, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Magee, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Kristie Cross, Louisiana Family Forum, 655 St. Ferdinand St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 344-8533, spoke in support of House Bill No. 425.

Dorinda Bordlee, Bioethics Defense Fund, 3312 Cleary Ave., Metairie, LA 70002, who spoke earlier for information only, provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Steffani Bangel, New Orleans Abortion Fund, 2549 Columbus St., New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 323-4389, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 425.

Laura Fine, Lift Louisiana, 400 Poydras St., Suite 2050, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 606-2294, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 425.

Representative Garofalo offered a motion to adopt the House Rule 6.8(A) Report to House Bill No. 425, which stated that the measure could not be accomplished statutorily and would, therefore, require a constitutional amendment. Without objection, the House Rule 6.8(A) Report to House Bill No. 425 was adopted by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Garofalo, Crews, DuBuisson, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Magee, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Representative Crews offered a motion to report House Bill No. 425 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 425 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Garofalo, Crews, DuBuisson, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Magee, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 10 in support and 2 in opposition. 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 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Raymond E. Garofalo, Jr.  
House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure

Date adopted: