

House Committee on Judiciary

Minutes of Meeting
2020 Regular Session
December 12, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Katrina R. Jackson, chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary, called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Katrina R. Jackson, chairman
Representative Chad Brown
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Michael T. Johnson
Representative Christopher J. Leopold
Representative Joseph A. Marino, III
Representative Nicholas Muscarello, Jr.
Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative John H. Bagneris
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr.
Representative Robby Carter
Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan
Representative Jimmy Harris
Representative Randal L. Gaines
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative Edmond Jordan
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative John C. "Jay" Morris, III, vice chairman
Representative Stuart Alan Moss

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sadie Becnel, attorney
Diane Merritt, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

III. OPENING REMARKS

Representative Jackson stated that the purpose of the meeting was to study the procedures for processing felony sentences and calculating incarceration release dates of persons in the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, pursuant to House Concurrent Study Request No. 1 of the 2019 Regular Session.

IV. DISCUSSION

James M. LeBlanc, secretary, Department of Public Safety and Corrections, P.O. Box 94304, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-6633, presented information about procedures for processing felony sentences and calculating incarceration release dates of persons in the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Jonathan R. Vining, legal counsel, Department of Public Safety and Corrections, P.O. Box 94304, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 936-6598, testified for informational purposes.

Angela Griffin, program director, Department of Public Safety and Corrections, P.O. Box 94304, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-8745, testified for informational purposes.

Loren Lampert, executive director, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, 2525 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 343-0171, testified for informational purposes.

Shannon Dirmann, attorney, Louisiana Sheriff's Association, 1175 Nicholson Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 343-9402, testified for informational purposes.

Warden Dennis Grimes, East Baton Rouge Sheriffs' Office, 2867 Brig. General Isaac Smith, Scotlandville, LA 70807, (225) 355-3311, testified for informational purposes.

Debbie D. Hudnall, executive director, Louisiana Clerks of Court Association, 10202 Jefferson Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 293-1162, testified for informational purposes.

Judge John LeBlanc, representing Louisiana District Court Judges Association, 201 Green St., 1st floor, Thibodaux, LA 70301, (985) 447-3780, testified for informational purposes.

Checo Yancy, representing Voters Organized to Educate (VOTE), 251 Florida St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 770-5248, testified for informational purposes and offered an exhibit entitled "Louisiana Overdetention" as Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

VI. CLOSING REMARKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Katrina R. Jackson
House Committee on Judiciary

Date adopted: