

House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2019 Regular Session
April 25, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative John A. Berthelot, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative John A. Berthelot, chairman
Representative Robert E. Billiot
Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.
Representative Paula P. Davis
Representative Mary DuBuisson
Representative Stephen C. Dwight
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Cedric B. Glover
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Mike Huval, vice chairman
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Barbara M. Norton
Representative Stephen E. Pugh
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Malinda B. White
Representative Mark Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tina Righteous, attorney
Valarie Banks, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Tyler Broussard, clerk
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 26 by Representative DeVillier

Representative DeVillier presented House Bill No. 26, which authorizes the governing authority of the town of Church Point to name a community center after a living person.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 26 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 26 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Huval, Jenkins, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 176 by Representative Chad Brown

Representative Chad Brown presented House Bill No. 176, which provides relative to the governance of sewerage districts created by certain parishes.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report House Bill No. 176 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 176 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Davis, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Jenkins, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

House Bill No. 42 by Representative Chad Brown

Representative Chad Brown presented House Bill No. 42, which provides relative to the Iberville Parks and Recreation District.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report House Bill No. 42 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 42 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives

Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Jenkins, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 342 by Representative Steve Carter

Representative Steve Carter presented House Bill No. 342, which provides relative to the Jefferson Place/Bocage Crime Prevention and Improvement District.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 342 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 342 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Jenkins, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 429 by Representative Steve Carter

Representative Steve Carter presented House Bill No. 429, which authorizes the creation of cooperative economic development districts affiliated with Louisiana public postsecondary education institutions.

Representative Berthelot offered amendments to House Bill No. 429 that would:

1. Authorize municipalities to create the economic development districts provided for by proposed law.
2. Add a requirement for parish approval if a municipal district includes unincorporated areas and for municipal approval if a parish district includes incorporated areas.
3. Provide that boundaries of districts are not required to be contiguous.
4. Remove authority for a district to acquire property by means other than gift, grant, or purchase or to hold and use any franchise or property.
5. Provide that improvement projects which a district may develop include those that benefit the college indirectly through an affiliated nonprofit corporation.

6. Add prohibition on the collection of taxes in an area added to a district unless approved by the voters in the added area.
7. Authorize, rather than require, inclusion of the board's seal on obligations of the district.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Davis, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Jenkins, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

Jason Droddy, LSU, no address given, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 429.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 429 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 429 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 566 by Representative Garofalo

Representative Garofalo presented House Bill No. 566, which authorizes the governing authority of St. Bernard Parish to levy a hotel occupancy tax.

Representative Jenkins offered a motion to report House Bill No. 566 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 566 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Davis, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 118 by Representative Berthelot

Representative Berthelot presented House Bill No. 118, which provides relative to powers granted to certain municipalities pursuant to the Local Government Budget Act.

Karen White, Louisiana Municipal Association, 700 North 10th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 344-5001, spoke in support of House Bill No. 118.

Representative Norton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 118 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 118 was reported favorably by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives

Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 159 by Representative Berthelot

Representative Berthelot presented House Bill No. 159, which provides relative to the forms of security banks may use to secure funds deposited by local governments.

David Boneno, Louisiana Bankers Association, 5555 Bankers Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 214-4836, spoke in support of House Bill No. 159.

Representative Smith offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 159. Representative Smith offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report House Bill No. 159 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 159 was reported with amendments by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, White, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 49 by Representative White

Representative White presented House Bill No. 49, which authorizes the naming of the education building at the B. B. "Sixty" Rayburn Correctional Center as the Deborah "Andi" Cook Memorial Education Building.

Representative Norton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 49 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 49 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, White, and Wright voted yea.

House Bill No. 152 by Representative White

Representative White presented House Bill No. 152, which provides relative to meetings of the Washington Parish planning commission.

Representative Bouie offered a motion to report House Bill No. 152 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 152 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Jenkins, Lyons, Norton, Pugh, Smith, White, and Wright voted yea.

House Bill No. 264 by Representative Hilferty

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 264, which increases the maximum parcel fee authorized to be levied in the Lakeshore Crime Prevention District and provides relative to the purpose of the district.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 264 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 264 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Norton, Pugh, White, and Wright voted yea.

House Bill No. 339 by Representative Dwight

Representative Dwight presented House Bill No. 339, which provides relative to hotel occupancy taxes levied by certain tourist commissions and convention and visitors bureaus.

Representative Dwight distributed a paper from the Louisiana Travel Association, entitled "HB339", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Berthelot distributed a letter from Ascension Hospitality Management Association in support of House Bill No. 339, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Jill Kidder, Louisiana Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus, Louisiana Travel Association, 1165 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 346-1857, spoke in support of House Bill No. 339.

Drew Talbot, Louisiana Travel Association, 8480 Bluebonnet Boulevard, Suite D, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 766-0200, spoke in support of House Bill No. 339.

Paul Arrigo, Louisiana Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus, 359 Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 339.

Janice Delerno, Louisiana Travel Association/LBBA, 8860 Highland Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 281-7358, spoke in support of House Bill No. 339.

Marion Fox, Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission, 100 Rue de D'Acadie, Jennings, LA 70549, (337) 821-5534, spoke in support of House Bill No. 339.

Russell J. Stutes, Jr., Southwest Louisiana Convention and Visitors Bureau, 600 Broad Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601, (337) 474-5118, spoke in support of House Bill No. 339.

Jason Decuir, First Flight Holdings, no address given, (225) 317-3345, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 339.

Representative Norton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 339 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 339 was reported favorably by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Davis, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 19 in support, and 5 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 54 by Representative Anders

Representative Anders presented House Bill No. 54, which provides relative to the board of commissioners of Concordia Parish Hospital Service District Number One.

Jack Stoker, Concordia Parish HSD 1, 909 Poydras Street, Suite 2600, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 561-1044, spoke in support of House Bill No. 54.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 54 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 54 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Huval, Jenkins, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, White, and Wright voted yea.

House Bill No. 406 by Representative Ivey

On behalf of Representative Ivey, Representative Edmonds presented House Bill No. 406, which creates the Fairwood Crime Prevention and Improvement District.

Sheri M. Morris, Fairwood Home Owners Association, 9480 Bluebonnet Boulevard, Suite F., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 421-1800, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 406.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 406 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 406 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

House Bill No. 179 by Representative Jim Morris

On behalf of Representative Jim Morris, Representative Berthelot presented House Bill No. 179, which authorizes Caddo Parish Fire District No. 3 to levy and collect a sales and use tax.

Ernest Mitchell, Caddo Fire District #3, 9081 Highway 80, Greenwood, LA 71033, (318) 938-5290, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 179.

Representative Jenkins offered a motion to report House Bill No. 179 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 179 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 189 by Representative Jim Morris

On behalf of Representative Jim Morris, Representative Berthelot presented House Bill No. 189, which provides with respect to employment applications with political subdivisions.

Bernard (Bernie) Piro, 8895 Blanchard Latex Road, Mooringsport, LA, (318) 470-1337, spoke in support of House Bill No. 189.

Paulette Bailey-Wilson, Louisiana Municipal Association, 10191 Patriot Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 925-2040, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 189.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 189 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 189 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Davis, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

House Bill No. 41 by Representative Bagneris

Representative Bagneris presented House Bill No. 41, which provides relative to the membership of the governing board of the Housing Authority of New Orleans.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 41 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 41 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 471 by Representative Glover

House Bill No. 471 provides relative to the secretary for the municipal fire and police civil service board in the city of Shreveport.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 471. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 471 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Adoption of minutes of the meetings of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs from the 2018 Regular Session held on March 15, March 29, April 6, April 13, April 18, April 27, and May 3, 2018

Representative Pugh offered a motion to adopt. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Pugh offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, White, and Wright voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Mike Huval
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: March 12, 2020

The committee has acknowledged on March 12, 2020, that these minutes were prepared in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives.