

House Committee on Appropriations

Minutes of Meeting
2020 Regular Session
May 18, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The committee administrative assistant called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue, chairman
Representative Roy Daryl Adams
Representative Tony Bacala
Representative Barbara W. Carpenter
Representative R. Dewith Carrier
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr., vice chairman
Representative Raymond J. Crews
Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel
Representative Mary DuBuisson
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman
Representative Lance Harris
Representative John R. Illg, Jr.
Representative Frederick Douglass Jones
Representative Timothy P. Kerner
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Jack G. McFarland
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Troy D. Romero
Representative Christopher Turner
Representative William "Bill" Wheat, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Francis C. Thompson

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Katie Andress, committee administrative assistant

Stephanie Little, attorney

Amanda Trapp, legislative analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 2 by Representative Bishop**

Representative Bishop presented House Bill No. 2, which provides for the comprehensive Capital Outlay budget.

Speak Schexnayder thanked the committee members for their work and asked members to consider the chairman's plan for the cash portion of House Bill No. 2.

Representative Zeringue offered amendments, Exhibit A, which are included in the committee records. Representative Zeringue offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Marcelle, and Dustin Miller voted yea.

Commissioner Jay Dardenne, Division of Administration, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-100, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7000, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Kyle R. "Chip" Kline, Jr., chairman, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, 1051 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70820, (225) 342-4367, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Dr. Shawn Wilson, secretary, Department of Transportation and Development, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 379-1200, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Bill No. 2 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 2 was reported with amendments by a vote of 20 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Zeringue, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Magee, Marcelle, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

House Bill No. 846 by Representative Wright

Representative Wright presented House Bill No. 846, which provides relative to the Competitive Projects Payroll Incentive Program.

Representative Zeringue offered amendments which: (1) delete provisions in proposed law expanding eligibility for businesses to participate in the Competitive Projects Payroll Incentive Program; (2) delete provisions extending termination of the program from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2026; and (3) reinstate discretionary authority of the secretary of the Dept. of Economic Development to invite businesses to participate in the program and approvals of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. Representative Zeringue offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Crews, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

Mr. Jason DeCuir, chairman, Louisiana Economic Recovery Task Force, 301 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 317-3345, spoke in support of House Bill No. 846.

Representative Dustin Miller offered a conceptual amendment to make House Bill No. 846 contingent upon specific appropriations from the House Committee on Appropriations. Representative Dustin Miller offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Harris objected. After discussion, Representative Dustin Miller withdrew the amendments.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 846 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 846 was reported with amendments by a vote of 21 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Crews, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Marcelle, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 559 by Representative Duplessis

Representative Duplessis presented House Bill No. 559, which provides with respect to early childhood literacy.

Ms. Jessica Baghian, assistant superintendent, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, no telephone number provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 559.

Representative Gary Carter in the chair.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 559 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 559 was reported favorably by a vote of 23 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Lyons, Magee, Marcelle, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 2 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Representative Zeringue in the chair.

Senate Bill No. 308 by Senator Hewitt

Senator Hewitt presented Senate Bill No. 308, which provides relative to the Dedicated Fund Review Subcommittee of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments which: (1) change the deadline by which the subcommittee must report its findings and recommendation from prior to the 2021 Regular Legislative Session to no later than the 30th day prior to the 2021 Regular Legislative Session and (2) make technical changes. Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 20 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Crews, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Marcelle, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 308 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 308 was reported with amendments by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Crews, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Kerner, Marcelle, McFarland, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

House Resolution No. 33 by Representative Echols

Representative Echols presented House Resolution No. 33, which authorizes and directs the Office of Group Benefits to study options for reducing state and participant premiums.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 33 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 33 was reported favorably by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Kerner, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat 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. 248 by Representative Harris

Representative Harris presented House Bill No. 248, which provides relative to overtime compensation of Department of State employees for election-related activities during certain time periods.

Secretary R. Kyle Ardoin, Secretary of State, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 248.

Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 248 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 248 was reported favorably by a vote of 20 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Marcelle, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat 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. 152 by Representative Brown

Representative Brown presented House Bill No. 152, which provides for insurance coverage for acupuncture.

Ms. Jennifer Marusak, Acupuncture Association of Louisiana, 1632 Hope Drive, Marrero, LA 70072, (225) 572-1916, spoke in support of House Bill No. 152.

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 152 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 152 was reported favorably by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Gary Carter, Crews, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Marcelle, Miguez, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 8 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 70 by Representative Mike Johnson

Representative Mike Johnson presented House Bill No. 70, which provides relative to National Guard death and disability benefits and qualifying subsequent examination.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 70 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 70 was reported favorably by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Gary Carter, Crews, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Jones, Kerner, Marcelle, Miguez, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 132 by Senator Henry

Senator Henry presented Senate Bill No. 132, which provides for reporting to and approval of all state contracts valued at twenty-five million dollars or more annually by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments which: (1) add a provision requiring approval by JLCB for cooperative endeavor agreements for professional, personal, consulting, or social services that have a value of twenty-five million dollars or more and (2) prohibit applicability of proposed law during any state of emergency declared pursuant to present law. Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Gary Carter, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Kerner, Marcelle, Miguez, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

Representative Miguez offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 132 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 132 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Gary Carter, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Kerner, Marcelle, Miguez, Romero, Turner, and Wheat 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.

Representative Gary Carter in the chair.

Senate Bill No. 122 by Senator Carter

Senator Carter presented Senate Bill No. 122, which provides relative to notice and appeal rights for over-age dependent coverage by any health plan offered under the purview of the Office of Group Benefits.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 122 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 122 was reported favorably by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat 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.

Representative Zeringue in the chair.**Senate Bill No. 79 by Senator Abraham**

Senator Abraham presented Senate Bill No. 79, 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.

Mr. Paul Rainwater, Cyber Innovation Center, 5117 Cheneau Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 281-8176, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 79.

Representative Romero offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 79 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 79 was reported favorably by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Magee, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat 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. 440 by Representative Stefanski

Representative Stefanski presented House Bill No. 440, a constitutional amendment which prohibits Dept. of Transportation and Development from using Transportation Trust Fund monies for certain expenses.

Dr. Shawn Wilson, secretary, Department of Transportation and Development, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 379-1200, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 440.

Representative Zeringue offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 440. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 440 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Harris, Illg, Jones, Magee, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, and Wheat voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 446 by Representative Stefanski

Representative Stefanski presented House Bill No. 446, a constitutional amendment which prohibits Dept. of Transportation and Development from using Transportation Trust Fund monies for benefits for retired employees.

Representative Zeringue offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 446. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 446 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Harris, Illg, Jones, Magee, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, and Wheat voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 157 by Senator Womack

Senator Womack presented Senate Bill No. 157, which provides relative to audit requirements for recipients of state funds.

Representative Zeringue offered technical amendments. Representative Zeringue offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Harris, Illg, Magee, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, and Wheat voted yea.

Representative Magee offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 157 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 157 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Harris, Illg, Magee, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, and Wheat 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.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 1 for information only. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Resolution No. 30 by Representative Magee

Representative Magee presented House Resolution No. 30, which urges and requests the Division of Administration, office of community development, to disburse federal funds for project applications in round one of the Watershed Projects Grant Program to aid economic recovery from COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Pat Forbes, executive director, Office of Community Development, 617 North Third Street, 6th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-1626, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 30.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 30 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 30 was reported favorably by a vote of 20 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Magee, Marcelle, McFarland, Dustin Miller, Romero, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

House Bill No. 791 by Representative Magee

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 791, which authorizes the Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers to remit local sales and use taxes to local collectors on behalf of certain dealers.

Ms. Dawn Starnes, National Federation of Independent Business, 301 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 287-4626, spoke in support of House Bill No. 791.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 791 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 791 was reported favorably by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Magee, Marcelle, McFarland, Turner, and Wheat 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. 506 by Representative DeVillier

Representative DeVillier presented House Bill No. 506, which reduces the severance tax rate for oil over a certain period of time, clarifies the severance tax rate for oil produced from certain incapable

wells, and authorizes the reduction of the severance tax rate on natural gas.

Mr. Gifford Briggs, Louisiana Oil and Gas Association, P.O. Box 4069, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, no telephone number provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 506.

Secretary Kimberly L. Robinson, Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 66258, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 506.

Representative Zeringue offered amendments which: (1) remove the provision reducing the severance tax rate for oil to 2% of its value at the time and place of severance if the price of oil falls below \$30 per barrel at any time from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021 and (2) remove the provision providing an 80% reduction in the severance tax rate for natural gas if the price of natural gas falls below \$1.90 per thousand cubic feet at any time from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. Representative Zeringue offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Gary Carter, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Marcelle, McFarland, Dustin Miller, and Turner voted yea.

Mr. Guy Cormier, Police Jury Association of Louisiana, 707 North Seventh Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 343-2835, spoke in opposition of House Bill No. 506.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 506 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 506 was reported with amendments by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Lyons, Marcelle, McFarland, Miguez, Dustin Miller, and Turner 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. 729 by Representative Marcelle

Representative Marcelle presented House Bill No. 729, which establishes the Council on the Children of Incarcerated Parents and Caregivers and repeals the termination of the Children's Cabinet.

Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 729 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 729 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Lyons, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Turner, and Wheat 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. 575 by Representative Thompson

On behalf of Representative Thompson, Mr. Joe Gendron, Louisiana Bankers Association, 5555 Bankers Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 214-4837, presented House Bill No. 575, which provides relative to security for deposit of funds.

Representative Carrier offered a motion to report House Bill No. 575 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 575 was reported favorably by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Kerner, Marcelle, McFarland, Dustin Miller, Turner, and Wheat voted yeas.

Senate Bill No. 111 by Senator Fields

Senator Fields presented Senate Bill No. 111, which provides that the contributions to the state retirement systems for the unfunded accrued liability shall be contained in the executive budget and as an exhibit to the general appropriation bill.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 111 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 111 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, DuBuisson, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Turner, and Wheat voted yeas.

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

Representative Gary Carter in the chair.

Senate Bill No. 503 by Senator White

On behalf of Senator White, Representative Zeringue presented Senate Bill No. 503, which provides relative to actions of Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget relative to the forty-five day close period.

Representative Zeringue offered technical amendments. Representative Zeringue offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, DuBuisson, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Turner, and Wheat voted yeas.

Representative Zeringue offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 503 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 503 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0

nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

House Bill No. 331 by Representative Bagley

On behalf of Representative Bagley, Representative Gary Carter presented House Bill No. 331, which authorizes transportation network companies to provide nonemergency medical transportation services through the state Medicaid program and all other publicly and privately issued health insurance plans.

Mr. Mike Rome, Madison Voluntary Council on Aging, 203 South Elm Street, Tallulah, LA 71282, (318) 574-3666, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 331.

Representative Zeringue offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 331. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 331 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 33 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

IV. BUSINESS

COMMITTEE ROOM 6 TO BE USED FOR OVERFLOW

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Persons who do not feel comfortable giving testimony in person at this time may submit a prepared statement in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee:

A. Any interested person or any committee member may file with the committee a prepared statement concerning a specific instrument or matter under consideration by the committee or concerning any matter within the committee's scope of authority, and the committee records shall reflect receipt of such statement and the date and time thereof.

B. Any person who files a prepared statement which contains data or statistical information shall include in such prepared statement sufficient information to identify the source of the data or statistical information. For the purposes of this Paragraph, the term "source" shall mean a

publication, website, person, or other source from which the data or statistical information contained in the prepared statement was obtained by the person or persons who prepared the statement.

NOTE: Only statements mailed to andressk@legis.la.gov and received prior to noon on Sunday, May 17th, will be included in the record for this committee meeting. All persons desiring to participate in the meeting shall utilize appropriate protective health measures and observe the recommended and appropriate social distancing.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Freeman offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Adams, Bacala, Carpenter, Carrier, Gary Carter, Crews, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Marcelle, Dustin Miller, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Jerome "Zee" Zeringue
House Committee on Appropriations