

## **House Committee on Appropriations**

Minutes of Meeting  
2020 Second Extraordinary Session  
September 29, 2020

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

Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The executive assistant called the roll.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue, chairman  
Representative Tony Bacala  
Representative R. Dewith Carrier  
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr., vice chairman  
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 Jack G. McFarland  
Representative Troy D. Romero  
Representative Francis C. Thompson  
Representative Christopher Turner  
Representative William "Bill" Wheat, Jr.

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Roy Daryl Adams  
Representative Barbara W. Carpenter  
Representative Raymond J. Crews

Representative C. Denise Marcelle  
Representative Blake Miguez  
Representative Dustin Miller

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Linda Hopkins, executive assistant  
Stephanie Little, attorney  
Amanda Trapp, legislative analyst

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

*Representative Carter in the chair.*

**House Bill No. 24 by Representative Zeringue**

Representative Zeringue presented House Bill No. 24, which provides relative to the capital outlay budget.

Mr. Chip Kline, chairman, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, 1051 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7669, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 24.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Bill No. 24 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 24 was reported favorably by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Bacala, Carrier, Gary Carter, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Lyons, McFarland, Romero, Thompson, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

**House Bill No. 27 by Representative Zeringue**

Representative Zeringue presented House Bill No. 27, which provides relative to fees charged to businesses by state agencies during a state of emergency.

Representative Zeringue offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 27. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 27 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Bacala, Carrier, Gary Carter, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freeman, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Lyons, McFarland, Romero, Thompson, 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. 39 by Representative Zeringue**

Representative Zeringue presented House Bill No. 39, which makes supplemental appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Representative McFarland offered amendments which required that the funds appropriated to the Louisiana Public Defender Board Program for the renovation or purchase of office space for district defenders offices shall not be expended unless a plan for such expenditures is approved by JLCB.

Commissioner Jay Dardenne, Division of Administration, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-210, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7000, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 39.

Mr. Rémy Starns, state public defender, Louisiana Public Defender Board, 301 Main Street, Suite 700, Baton Rouge, LA 70825, (225) 219-9305, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 39.

Representative McFarland offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Bacala, Carrier, Gary Carter, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Lyons, Magee, McFarland, Romero, Thompson, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Bill No. 39 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 39 was reported with amendments by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Bacala, Carrier, Gary Carter, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Lyons, Magee, McFarland, Romero, Thompson, Turner, and Wheat 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.

***Representative Zeringue in the chair.***

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 3 by Representative Bourriaque**

Representative Bourriaque presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 3, which memorializes congress and the Louisiana congressional delegation to take such actions as are necessary to require the Federal Emergency Management Agency to grant Louisiana full federal funding for disaster expenses associated with Hurricane Laura or to grant Louisiana the ability to utilize alternative sources of federal funds as any needed match if full funding is not provided.

Representative Magee offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 3 favorably.

Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 3 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Bacala, Carrier, Gary Carter, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Magee, McFarland, Romero, Thompson, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

#### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 4 by Representative Bourriaque**

Representative Bourriaque presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 4, which requests the division of administration, office of community development, to include certain activities as eligible expenses in the development of its Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Program Action Plans.

Representative Romero offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 4 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 4 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Carrier, Gary Carter, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Lyons, Magee, Romero, Thompson, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

#### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 6 by Representative Landry**

Representative Landry presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 6, which directs the Legislative Budgetary Control Council to review the compensation of legislative assistants and to establish a salary schedule for legislative assistants that is competitive with the marketplace.

Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 6 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 6 was reported favorably by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Bacala, Carrier, Gary Carter, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Lyons, Magee, McFarland, Romero, Thompson, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

### **IV. OTHER 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: Statements emailed to [hopkinsl@legis.la.gov](mailto:hopkinsl@legis.la.gov) and received prior to 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 29, 2020, will be distributed to the committee members prior to the meeting.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Turner offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Zeringue, Bacala, Carrier, Gary Carter, Deshotel, DuBuisson, Harris, Illg, Jones, Kerner, Lyons, Magee, McFarland, Romero, Thompson, Turner, and Wheat voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Jerome "Zee" Zeringue  
House Committee on Appropriations