

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2020 Regular Session
May 19, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stephen C. Dwight, chairman of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Stephen C. Dwight, chairman
Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV
Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Royce Duplessis, vice chairman
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Charles Alexander Henry
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Michael T. Johnson
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst
Lorriane Lucas, attorney
Rosalie Ammersbach, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 36 by Senator Bernard**

Representative Duplessis in the chair.

Senator Bernard presented Senate Bill No. 36, which provides for the acceptance of a notice of candidacy.

Representative Mike Johnson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 36 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 36 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White 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.

Senate Bill No. 173 by Senator Bernard

Senator Bernard presented Senate Bill No. 173, which requires a notice to be posted upon the withdrawal or disqualification of a candidate's name that remains on the ballot.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 173 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 173 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 155 by Senator Luneau

Senator Luneau presented Senate Bill No. 155, which provides for payment of supplemental compensation from nonpublic sources for certain personnel at the Jimmy D. Long, Sr. Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts.

Representative Magee offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 155 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 155 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White 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 Resolution No. 45 by Representative DeVillier

Representative DeVillier presented House Resolution No. 45, which directs state agencies and licensing boards to suspend the imposition of sanctions against licensees and permittees for a violation of COVID-19 executive orders.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 45 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 45 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 633 by Representative Freiberg

Representative Freiberg presented House Bill No. 633, which provides for mandatory training in cybersecurity awareness for all state and local employees, officials, and contractors.

Chairman Dwight in the chair.

Eric Romero, City of Baton Rouge, 18246 Old Perkins Place Avenue, Prairieville, LA 70769, (225) 389-3070, spoke in support of House Bill No. 633.

Representative Dwight offered amendments to add provisions to specify that reports on the completion of training be submitted to the Department of State Civil Service. Representative Dwight offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

Representative Freiberg provided a letter from the National Insurance Crime Bureau in support of House Bill No. 633, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 633 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 633 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

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

House Bill No. 52 by Representative Green

Representative Green presented House Bill No. 52, which provides relative to the filing of oaths and bonds by registrars of voters.

Representative Jenkins offered a motion to report House Bill No. 52 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 52 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

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

Senate Bill No. 140 by Senator Reese

On behalf of Senator Reese, Representative Farnum presented Senate Bill No. 140, which requires certain offices to report cyber incidents to the secretary of state.

R. Kyle Ardoin, secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 140.

Representative Farnum offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 140 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 140 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

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

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 27 by Senator Henry

Senator Henry presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 27, which requests a joint study of the ability of members of the legislature to vote by video or other electronic means.

Representative Henry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 27, to which Representative White objected. No vote was taken on the motion to voluntarily defer Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 27.

Representative White offered a substitute motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 27 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 27 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas, 3 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Mike Johnson, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea. Representatives Henry, LaCombe, and Magee voted nay. Representative Dwight abstained.

House Bill No. 419 by Representative Landry

Representative Landry presented House Bill No. 419, which allows all registered voters to utilize voting by mail.

Charles Stephens, Louisiana Vote By Mail, 3142 White Lane Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 447-1271, spoke in support of House Bill No. 419.

Catherine McKinney, Louisiana Vote By Mail, 10040 Martin Street, Saint Francisville, LA 70775, (225) 721-3241, spoke in support of House Bill No. 419.

Alex Perera, Louisiana Vote By Mail, 777 Ben Hur Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70820, (985) 519-0550, spoke in support of House Bill No. 419.

Peter Robins-Brown, Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, no address provided, (504) 256-8196, spoke in support of House Bill No. 419.

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. 419.

Debbie Kuehne, East Baton Rouge Parish Republican Women, 9025 Hill Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 326-0534, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 419.

Representative Horton offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 419, to which Representative Newell objected. No vote was taken on the motion to involuntarily defer House Bill No. 419.

Representative Newell offered a substitute motion to report House Bill No. 419 favorably, to which Representative Horton objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the substitute motion to report House Bill No. 419 favorably failed by a vote of 4 yeas, 10 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Duplessis, Jenkins, LaCombe, and Newell voted yea. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Mike Johnson, Magee, Schamerhorn, and White voted nay. Representative Dwight abstained.

The original motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 419 was considered. The motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 419 passed by a vote of 9 yeas, 5 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Mike Johnson, Magee, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representatives Duplessis, Jenkins, LaCombe, Newell, and White voted nay. Representative Dwight abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support, 6 in opposition, and 1 for information only. 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: 245 in support, and 329 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Representative Duplessis in the chair.

House Bill No. 576 by Representative Willard

Representative Willard presented House Bill No. 576, which provides with respect to maintaining voter registration lists.

Representative Ivey offered an amendment to require, rather than permit, the registrar of voters to cancel an inactive voter's registration for failure to respond to an address confirmation card from the office of the registrar of voters. Representative Ivey offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

Chairman Dwight in the chair.

Peter Robins-Brown, Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, no address provided, (504) 256-8196, spoke in support of House Bill No. 576.

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. 576.

Lani Durio, secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 576.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 576. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 576 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Gadberry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support, and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 188 by Representative Goudeau

Representative Goudeau presented House Bill No. 188, a constitutional amendment which provides for an exception to the prohibition on political activity by members of civil service systems.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 188 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 188 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

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. 866 by Representative Cormier

Representative Cormier presented House Bill No. 866, which prohibits the receipt of certain things of economic value by certain persons affiliated with a political subdivision's official journal and related persons from the political subdivision.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to report House Bill No. 866 favorably, to which Representative Gadberry objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 866 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea. Representative Gadberry voted nay.

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

House Resolution No. 18 by Representative Bacala

Representative Bacala presented House Resolution No. 18, which provides an option in the House Rules to limit the debate on legislative instruments on final passage or adoption by a majority vote of the elected members of the House.

Representative Hodges offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 18 favorably, to which Representative Duplessis objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Resolution No. 18 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas, 7 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Mike Johnson, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representatives Duplessis, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, and White voted nay. Representative Dwight abstained.

House Resolution No. 13 by Representative Gregory Miller

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Resolution No. 13, which provides relative to House Legislative Services employees and the duties of the Clerk of the House.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 13 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 13 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

House Bill No. 784 by Representative McCormick

Representative McCormick presented House Bill No. 784, which provides relative to certain types of contributions and records required to be maintained relative thereto.

Jenni Smith, Representative McCormick's office, 104 Allen Street #B, Oil City, LA 71061, (318) 995-8040, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 784.

Kathleen M. Allen, Louisiana Board of Ethics/Ethics Administration Program, P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 219-5600, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 784.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 784 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 784 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

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 Concurrent Resolution No. 3 by Representative Magee

On behalf of Representative Magee, Representative Duplessis presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 3, which recreates the Louisiana Commission on Justice System Funding.

Representative Duplessis offered amendments to:

- (1) Provide for one representative from the Association of Louisiana Bail Underwriters on the commission rather than two representatives.
- (2) Provide for one representative from the American Bail Coalition on the commission rather than two representatives.

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 3 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 3 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, and 1 for information only. 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 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 29 by Representative James

On behalf of Representative James, Representative Duplessis presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 29, which creates the Clean Slate Task Force.

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 29 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 29 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Vice Chairman Royce Duplessis
House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: October 7, 2020