

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2020 - 2021 Interim
November 23, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman
Representative Christopher Turner, vice chairman
Representative Roy Daryl Adams
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Raymond J. Crews
Representative Michael Charles Echols
Representative Jason Hughes
Representative Ed Larvadain, III
Representative Wayne McMahan
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen
Representative Larry Selders
Representative Joseph A. Stagni

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Robby Carter
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Thomas A. Pressly

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Shayla Cockerm, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Felicie Jackson, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Rodney Lyons
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms
Danny Leming, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

- (1) In accordance with R.S. 49:953(B)(4)(a), oversight hearing on the Louisiana Department of Health redeclared emergency rule amending LAC 51:II.105 and 107 relative to reportable diseases and conditions adopted on November 3, 2020.**

Further action was taken by the committee on Item No. 1 at a later point in the meeting. Please check for the subsequent action to complete the record of discussion on item No. 1.

Representative Bagley provided a handout, a letter from the Louisiana Department of Health, dated November 20, 2020, Exhibit A, which is included in committee records. The handout was read into the record by Felicie Jackson, House Committee on Health and Welfare committee administrative assistant.

Representative Barry Ivey made a brief statement relative to emergency rules of the Louisiana Department of Health bypassing the public comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act that apply to a permanent rule. Representative Ivey stated that this is the Louisiana Department of Health's third emergency rule on reportable diseases and conditions and that he would like the department to issue a notice of intent to promulgate a permanent rule on this subject matter.

- (2) Update regarding COVID-19 response by school systems and the identification of close contacts of students.**

Michael Faulk, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 2713 Indian Mound Blvd, Monroe, LA 71201, (225) 229-6021, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems. Mr. Faulk provided a handout, a letter with an attached guide on how Missouri reopened their school systems, Exhibit B, which is included in committee records.

David A. Alexander, Ascension Parish Schools, 1100 Webster St, Donaldsonville, LA 70436, (225) 361-7005, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Wes Watts, West Baton Rouge Parish Schools, 3761 Rosedale Rd, Port Allen, LA 70767, (225) 343-8709, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Jeff Powell, Rapides Parish School Board, 619 Sixth St, Alexandria, LA 71301, (318) 449-3102, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Joe Murphy, Livingston Parish Public Schools, 13909 Florida Blvd, Livingston, LA 70754, (225) 685-7044, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Jill Hines, Health Freedom Louisiana, 1307 Mesa Ave, Ruston, LA 71270, (904) 318-6018, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems and provided a handout, a letter to the members of the committee, Exhibit C, which is included in committee records.

Colleen Weimer, High School Students, 713 Silverthorne Ln, Covington, LA 70433, (985) 792-1701, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Brennan Faulgout, Central Lafourche High School, 133 Cypress Villa Ln, Gheens, LA 70355, (985) 258-3035, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Monique Hodson, 197 Breaux St, Raceland, LA 70394, (985) 438-4059, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Michelle Gautreaux, Central Lafourche High School and Lafourche community, 1203 Romy Dr, Lockport, LA 70374, (985) 232-0241, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Brittany Sherlin, Health Freedom Louisiana, 15402 Red Maple Pl, Greenwell Springs, LA 70739, (985) 377-3835, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Mignon Rohnke, LSU Parent, 125 Stella St, Metairie, LA 70005, (504) 258-2768, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Abigail Licatino, 201 S Tallowood Dr, Covington, LA 70433, (713) 382-8212, spoke for information only on COVID-19 response by school systems.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 120 general statements. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

(1) In accordance with R.S. 49:953(B)(4)(a), oversight hearing on the Louisiana Department of Health redeclared emergency rule amending LAC 51:II.105 and 107 relative to reportable diseases and conditions adopted on November 3, 2020.

This is a continuation of the discussion on Item No. 1 from earlier in the meeting. Please check for the prior action to complete the record of discussion on Item No. 1.

Drew Murray, House Committee on Health and Welfare legislative analyst, read the rules on oversight of the committee and explained its procedures. Mr. Murray referred to a memo he and the committee staff attorney prepared, Exhibit D, which is included in committee records.

The committee took no action on the Louisiana Department of Health redeclared emergency rule relative to reportable diseases and conditions.

(3) Informational hearing on administration and delivery of nonemergency medical transportation (NEMT) services in the Medicaid managed care program.

Angel Daigre, Daigre's of Louisiana, Incorporated, 934 W Roosevelt St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 610-4757, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Lawrence Sylvan, Sylvan Transportation, 10001 Lake Forest Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70127, (504) 307-9345, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Tara LeBlanc, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-7810, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Micheal Boutte, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Tony Crawford, Louisiana Medical Providers Coalition, Limited Liability Company, 2422 Wisteria St, New Orleans, LA 70122, (504) 729-0529, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Kathy Kliebert, Louisiana Managed Medicaid Association, 168 Northlake Dr, Thibodaux, LA 70301, (985) 791-7637, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Mike Rome, Louisiana Council on Aging Director's Association, 203 S Elm St, Tallulah, LA 71282, (318) 341-0532, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Steve Adams, Southeastrans, Incorporated, 4751 Best Rd, Atlanta, GA 30337, (404) 630-4647, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Felecia White-Morris, White Morris Transport, 8101 Kingston Rd, Ste 101, Kingston, LA 71108, (318) 272-6633, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Sajidah Hankins, NEMT Industry/self, 48 Mason St, Gretna, LA 70053, (504) 261-5514, spoke on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Melissa Noel, Mel's Transportation, 2475 St Joseph Ln, Harvey, LA 70058, (504) 563-3561, spoke

on non-emergency medical transportation services.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 14 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: 6 general statements. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Adams offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Turner, Adams, Cox, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Moore, Robert Owen, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: April 27, 2021