

House Committee on Insurance

Minutes of Meeting
2020 Regular Session
May 27, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Chad Brown, chairman of the House Committee on Insurance, called the meeting to order at 11:44 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Chad Brown, chairman
Representative Edmond Jordan, vice chairman
Representative Mary DuBuisson
Representative Kathy Edmonston
Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment
Representative Lawrence "Larry" Frieman
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Paul Hollis
Representative Mike Huval
Representative John R. Illg, Jr.
Representative Sherman Q. Mack
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Matthew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Cedric B. Glover

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rashida Keith, attorney
Charlotte Cravins, attorney
Christie L. Russell, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, Sergeant At Arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 506 by Senator Barrow

Senator Barrow presented Senate Bill No. 506, which authorizes property insurance policies insuring commercial and residential buildings to cover the cost of disinfecting fumigation.

Jeff Albright, Independent Agents of Louisiana, 8600 Bluebonnet Blvd., spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 506.

Representative Mack offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on Senate Bill No. 506. Without objection, action on Senate Bill No. 506 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firmont, Frieman, Green, Hollis, Mack, McCormick, and Willard voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 156 by Senator Luneau

Senator Luneau presented Senate Bill No. 156, which prohibits insurance contracts from depriving courts of this state of the jurisdiction or venue of action against insurer.

Representative Green offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 156 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 156 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firmont, Frieman, Green, Hollis, Mack, McCormick, and Willard voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 477 by Senator Ward

Senator Ward presented Senate Bill No. 477, which provides relative to business interruption insurance.

Juanita Lockhart, Lockhart Insurance, P.O. Box 93, Greenwell Springs, LA 70739, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 477.

Bob Lausing, Central Early Learning Center, 9739 Joor Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70818, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 477.

Jeff Albright, Independent Agents of Louisiana, 8600 Bluebonnet Blvd., spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 477.

Representative Green offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 477 favorably, to which Representative Huval objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas, 8 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Jordan, Green, Mack, and Willard voted yea. Representatives DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firmment, Frieman, Hollis, Huval, Illg, and McCormick voted nay. Representative Brown abstained.

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

Senate Bill No. 204 by Senator Talbot

Senator Talbot presented Senate Bill No. 204, which provides for health insurance coverage of cancer treatments.

Julie Stokes, 13 Chateau Rue du Jardin, Kenner, LA 70005, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 204.

Dr. Marc Matrana, Ocshner Precision Medicine, New Orleans, LA, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 204.

Representative Brown offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 204, which would: (1) Modify the title to add citations and descriptions relative to Phase 1 clinical trials for cancer; (2) Provide that a health coverage plan is not required to cover non-healthcare services, costs for managing research data, investigational drugs, devices, items, or services associated with clinical trials; (3) Prohibit a health coverage plan from denying coverage for the treatment of metastatic or unresectable tumors with a medically necessary drug prescribed by a physician under certain circumstances; (4) Provide that coverage may be denied if an alternative treatment proves to be more effective in published randomized clinical trials and is not contraindicated in the patient; (5) Require a health coverage plan to continue to provide coverage of a prescribed drug after the initial treatment period if the drug is physician-certified as medically necessary for the treatment of the patient's cancer, based on documented improvement of the patient; (6) Provide an effective date of Jan. 1, 2021, and require any policy, contract, or health coverage plan currently in place to comply with the Act by Jan. 1, 2022; and (7) Make technical changes. Representative Brown offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Frieman, Hollis, Illg, Mack, McCormick, and Willard voted yea.

Representative DuBuisson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 204 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 204 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Frieman, Hollis, Illg, Mack, McCormick, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support. Witness

cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 231 by Senator Talbot

Senator Talbot presented Senate Bill No. 231, which provides with respect to the Louisiana Health Plan.

Representative Brown offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 231 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 231 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Frieman, Hollis, Illg, Mack, McCormick, and Willard voted yea.

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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Chad Brown
House Committee on Insurance

Date adopted: