

House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations

Minutes of Meeting
2020 First Extraordinary Session
June 25, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Barbara W. Carpenter, chairman of the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Barbara W. Carpenter, chairman
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Mack Marcel Cormier
Representative Raymond J. Crews
Representative Michael Charles Echols
Representative Lawrence "Larry" Frieman
Representative Charles Alexander Henry
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Ed Larvadain, III
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative Charles Anthony Owen
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen
Representative Tammy T. Phelps
Representative Alan Seabaugh

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Valarie Hodges, vice chairman

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nevonda Reed, division director
Jurissa McGuire, attorney
Felicie Jackson, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Danny Leming, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 13 by Senator Carter**

Senator Carter presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 13, which requests the Louisiana Workforce Commission to distribute information regarding the provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act that provide paid sick time to employees who are unable to work due to the effects of COVID-19.

Meridith Trahan, Louisiana Workforce Commission, 1001 N 23rd St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-1599, spoke for information only on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 13.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 13 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 13 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Seabaugh 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.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 11 by Senator Reese

Senator Reese presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 11, which requests certain state agencies and private businesses in Louisiana to recognize the value that justice-involved persons can bring to the workforce and society and to act with intention to empower, train, and employ such individuals.

Representative Larvadain offered amendments which make technical changes. Representative Larvadain offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 11 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 11 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Crews,

Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Seabaugh 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 Resolution No. 46 by Representative James

Representative James presented House Resolution No. 46, which requests the Louisiana Workforce Commission to promote access to unemployment insurance benefits by improving wait times for filing claims.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 46 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 46 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Resolution No. 47 by Representative James

Representative James presented House Resolution No. 47, which requests the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations to study increasing unemployment compensation amounts and expanding unemployment compensation eligibility.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 47 favorably and, after further discussion, withdrew this motion.

Representative Carpenter offered amendments in concept which would have changed the deadline for submission of a report to the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana from August 31, 2020, to no later than 30 days prior to the convening of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana. Representative Carpenter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Larvadain, Miguez, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 47 with amendments, to which Representative Frieman objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 9 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Cormier, Larvadain, Charles Owen, and Phelps voted yea. Representatives Amedee, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Miguez, Robert Owen, and Seabaugh voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Resolution No. 48 by Representative James

Representative James presented House Resolution No. 48, which memorializes the United States Congress to extend the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation program to help the state of Louisiana continue its economic recovery and to provide support to the administration of the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

Will Kenneth Walker, 8501 I-10 Service Rd, Apt 1413, New Orleans, LA 70127, (415) 595-7721, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 48.

Louise Francis, Step Up Louisiana, 7320 Means Ave, New Orleans, LA 70127, (504) 214-5031, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 48.

Tashyra Marshall, Step Up Louisiana, 2970 Spain St, New Orleans, LA 70122, (504) 578-3802, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 48.

Gisele Haralson, Step Up Louisiana, 12296 Oak Glory Dr, Giesmar, LA 70734, no phone number provided, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 48.

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 48 favorably, to which Representative Seabaugh objected.

Robert Wooley, Louisiana Workforce Commission, 1001 N 23rd St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 938-4240, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 48.

The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas and 10 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Cormier, Larvadain, and Phelps voted yea. Representatives Amedee, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Miguez, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, and Seabaugh voted nay.

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

House Resolution No. 49 by Representative James

Representative James presented House Resolution No. 49, which requests the Louisiana Workforce Commission to study and determine new parameters of what constitutes good cause for job separation and suitable work protections.

Devante Lewis, Louisiana Budget Project, 619 Jefferson Hwy, Ste 1-D, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, no phone number provided, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 49.

Kim Robinson, Step Up Louisiana, 2723 Leondias St, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 710-5588, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 49.

Peter Robins-Brown, Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, 2022 St Bernard Ave, New Orleans, LA 70116, (504) 256-8196, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 49.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 49 favorably, to which Representative Amedee objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas and 10 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Cormier, Larvadain, and Phelps voted yea. Representatives Amedee, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Miguez, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, and Seabaugh voted nay.

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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Barbara W. Carpenter
House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations

Date adopted: April 29, 2021