

House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations

Minutes of Meeting
2020 Regular Session
May 7, 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 9:00 a.m. in Room 5, 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 Kenny R. Cox
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 Valarie Hodges, vice chairman

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jurissa McGuire, attorney
Christie Russell, committee administrative assistant
Nevonda Reed Dobard, division director

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Fay Talbot, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 832 by Representative Willard**

Representative Willard presented House Bill No. 832, which provides with respect to sick leave benefits.

Representative Jason Hughes, District 100, representing Orleans Parish, spoke in support of House Bill No. 832.

Susan East Nelson, Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families, 13609 Landmark Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, spoke in support of House Bill No. 832.

Davante Lewis, Louisiana Budget Project, 619 Jefferson Highway, Suite 1-D, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in support of House Bill No. 832.

Dawn Starns, National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB), 301 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 832.

Jim Patterson, Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI), P.O. Box 80258, Baton Rouge, LA 70898, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 832.

Representative Larvadain offered amendments to House Bill No. 832 which would: (1) add that the purpose of this Act is to help prevent the spread of illness and promote the health and economic well-being of workers, families, businesses, customers, and communities; and (2) make technical changes. Representative Larvadain offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Larvadain, Miguez, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to report House Bill No. 832 with amendments to which Representative Seabaugh objected. Representative Seabaugh offered a substitute motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 832. The administrative assistant called the roll and the substitute motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Amedee, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Miguez, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, and Seabaugh voted yea. Representatives Carpenter, Cormier, Cox, Larvadain, and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 4 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 397 by Representative Landry

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 397, which provides for an increase in the administrative penalties assessed for the misclassification of employees. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 397 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Larvadain, Miguez, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Seabaugh voted yea.

House Bill No. 182 by Representative Stagni

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 182, which provides relative to occupational diseases for members in the classified fire service. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 182 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Larvadain, Miguez, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Seabaugh voted yea.

House Bill No. 703 by Representative Goudeau

Representative Goudeau presented House Bill No. 703 which provides relative to unemployment compensation requirements.

Robert Wooley, Louisiana Workforce Commission, 1001 N. 23rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 703.

Representative Cox offered an amendment to House Bill No. 703, which made technical changes. Representative Cox offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Larvadain, Miguez, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Representative Cox offered an amendment to House Bill No. 703 which would add that a job interview scheduled by the claimant can be in person or virtual. Representative Cox offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment to which Representative Seabaugh objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the amendment failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 10 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Cormier, Cox, Larvadain, and Phelps voted yea. Representatives Amedee, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Miguez, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, and Seabaugh voted nay.

Representative Seabaugh offered a motion to report House Bill No. 703 with amendments, to which Representative Larvadain objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 703 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Amedee, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Henry, Horton, Migeuz, Charles Owen, Robert Owen, and Seabaugh voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 1 in opposition. 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 11:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: April 29, 2021