

House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2020 Regular Session
May 14, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Mike Huval, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Mike Huval, chairman
Representative Mary DuBuisson
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Timothy P. Kerner
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Markham Scott McKnight
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative Joseph A. Stagni, vice chairman
Representative Matthew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Bryan Fontenot
Representative Cedric B. Glover

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tina Righteous, attorney
Valarie Banks, committee administrative assistant
David Gauthier, analyst
Bryan D. Vincent, director

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Alvin Judson, sergeant at arms
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 101 by Representative Carpenter

Representative Carpenter presented House Bill No. 101, which provides relative to the civil service status of employees of the East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 101 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 101 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard 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.

House Bill No. 102 by Representative Glover

On behalf of Representative Glover, Representative Carpenter presented House Bill No. 102, which provides relative to the civil service status of employees of the Housing Authority of the City of Shreveport.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 102 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 102 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard 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.

House Bill No. 590 by Representative Mike Johnson

Representative Mike Johnson presented House Bill No. 590, which provides relative to the donation of equipment and personnel between two political subdivisions.

Erin Day, deputy director, office of the attorney general, no address given, (225) 326-6005, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 590.

Guy Cormier, Police Jury Association of Louisiana, 707 North 7th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 343-2835, spoke in support of House Bill No. 590.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 590 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 590 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard 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.

House Bill No. 151 by Representative Beaulieu

Representative Beaulieu presented House Bill No. 151, which provides relative to the use of a petty cash account.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 151 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 151 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 373 by Representative McKnight

Representative McKnight presented House Bill No. 373, which provides relative to the Westminster Pine Park Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 373 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 373 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 647 by Representative Selders

Representative Selders presented House Bill No. 647, which authorizes the East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority to use a trade name.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 647 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 647 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval,

DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard 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.

House Bill No. 314 by Representative Schamerhorn

Representative Schamerhorn presented House Bill No. 314, which provides relative to the official journal of parishes, municipalities, school boards, and other political subdivisions.

Karen White, Louisiana Municipal Association, 700 North 10th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 344-5001, spoke in support of House Bill No. 314.

Guy Cormier, Police Jury Association of Louisiana, 707 North 7th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 343-2835, spoke in support of House Bill No. 314.

Kevin Hayes, Louisiana Press Association, 412 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 268-2725, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 314.

Scott Sternberg, Louisiana Press Association, 435 Gravier Street, Suite 2020, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 324-1887, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 314.

Representative Farnum offered a motion to report House Bill No. 314 favorably, to which Representative Stagni objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas and 11 nays. Representatives Farnum, Green, Schamerhorn, and Willard voted yea. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Newell, and Stagni voted nay.

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

House Bill No. 372 by Representative James

Representative James presented House Bill No. 372, which creates the Forest Oak Windsor Place Crime Prevention, Improvement, and Beautification District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 372 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 372 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 797 by Representative Duplessis

Representative Duplessis presented House Bill No. 797, which authorizes parishes and municipalities to provide relative to employee leave benefits.

Vice Chairman Stagni in the chair.

Chairman Huval in the chair.

Representative Willard offered amendments that Representative Duplessis explained would make the bill apply to paid sick leave and family and medical leave; the amendments also eliminated references to vacation leave and pay. Representative Willard offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Matt Wood, Communications Workers of America, and Louisiana AFL-CIO, 196 Shadow Ridge Drive, Bossier, LA 71112, (318) 465-2092, spoke in support of House Bill No. 797.

Davante Lewis, Louisiana Budget Project, 619 Jefferson Highway Suite 1-D, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in support of House Bill No. 797.

Paul Rainwater, city of New Orleans, 5117 Cheneau Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 281-8176, spoke in support of House Bill No. 797.

Benjamin Zucker, Step Up Louisiana, 3116 Cleveland Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 444-5825, spoke in support of House Bill No. 797.

Kaitlyn Joshua, Step Up Louisiana, 417 South Mandy Avenue, Gonzales, LA 70737, (225) 454-8321, spoke in support of House Bill No. 797.

Caleb Holmes, Step Up Louisiana, 2000 Brightside Circle, no city given, (318) 638-9500, spoke in support of House Bill No. 797.

Angelle Bradford, 2103 Selma Street, New Orleans, LA 70122, (225) 454-8319, spoke in support of House Bill No. 797.

Peter Robins-Brown, Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, no address given, (504) 256-8196, spoke in support of House Bill No. 797.

Representative Jason Hughes, Louisiana House District #100, spoke in support of House Bill No. 797.

Dawn Starns, National Federation for Independent Businesses, 301 Main Street, no city given, (225) 287-4626, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 797.

Jim Patterson, Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, P.O. Box 80258, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-0258, (225) 928-5388, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 797.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 797 with amendments, to which Representative Schamerhorn objected. The committee administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 6 yeas and 9 nays. Representatives Green, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Stagni, and Willard voted yea. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, McKnight, and Schamerhorn voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, and 6 in opposition. 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: 19 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 850 by Representative Ivey

Representative Ivey presented House Bill No. 850, which provides relative to the creation of and the levy of taxes by certain special districts.

Michael Lunsford, Breaux Bridge, no witness card, distributed a diagram entitled "DOWNTOWN LAFAYETTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT" which is included as Exhibit A in the committee records.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 850 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 850 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, McKnight, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, McKnight, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Mike Huval
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: