

House Committee on Ways and Means

Minutes of Meeting
2020 Second Extraordinary Session
October 19, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stuart J. Bishop, chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Stuart J. Bishop, chairman
Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV
Representative Ryan Joseph Bourriaque
Representative Marcus Anthony Bryant
Representative Rhonda Gaye Butler
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Wayne McMahan
Representative Buddy Mincey, Jr.
Representative Joseph A. Orgeron
Representative Tammy T. Phelps
Representative Neil Riser
Representative John M. Stefanski, vice chairman
Representative Matthew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Jason Hughes
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Malinda B. White
Representative Mark Wright

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brittany Lea, committee administrative assistant
Alison Pryor, senior attorney
Catherine Zeringue, attorney

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 50 by Senator Allain**

Senator Allain presented Senate Bill No. 50, which provides relative to the capital outlay process.

Representative Bishop offered technical amendments. Representative Bishop offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Bourriaque, Bryant, Butler, Farnum, McMahan, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Stefanski, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 50 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 50 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Bourriaque, Bryant, Butler, Farnum, McMahan, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Stefanski, and Willard voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 62 by Senator Smith

On behalf of Senator Smith, Representative Gregory Miller presented Senate Bill No. 62, which provides for the refundable portion of the inventory tax credit for certain manufacturers impacted by the 2020 emergencies and disasters.

Representative Bishop offered amendments to specify that the taxpayer must employ a minimum of 100 full-time employees for at least one month within each of the first three quarters of calendar year 2020 in order to qualify for the provisions of the proposed law. Representative Bishop offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaulieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, Butler, Farnum, McMahan, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Stefanski, and Willard voted yea.

Mr. Randy Kennedy, executive vice president, Randa Apparel and Accessories, 200 East James Drive, Saint Rose, LA 70087, (504) 712-7179, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 62.

Mr. Matthew Jewell, Saint Charles Parish president, 14927 River Road, Hahnville, LA 70057, (504) 201-2477, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 62.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 62 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 62 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Bishop, Beaulieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, Butler, Farnum, McMahan, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Stefanski, and Willard voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 52 by Senator Reese

Senator Reese presented Senate Bill No. 52, which provides for credits for certain ad valorem taxes paid for the 2020 tax year.

Representative Bishop offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 52 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 52 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaulieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, Butler, Farnum, McMahan, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Stefanski, and Willard voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 72 by Senator Talbot

On behalf of Senator Talbot, Representative Stefanski presented Senate Bill No. 72, which authorizes an income tax credit for certain businesses whose operations were interrupted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments which: (1) clarify the returns in which the credit may be claimed; and (2) add requirement that proposed law is applicable to income taxable periods beginning on January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020. Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaulieu, Bourriaque, Butler, Farnum, McMahan, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Stefanski, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 72 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 72 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaulieu, Bourriaque, Butler, Farnum, McMahan, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Stefanski, and Willard voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

To review and approve the third-party convenience fee schedules pursuant to R.S. 49:316.1 for certain payments made to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

Ms. Rebecca Dupree, fiscal director, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF), 5825 Florida Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 935-2186, spoke for information only regarding the review and approval for third-party convenience fee schedules and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Mr. Kevin Miner, Louisiana Interactive, LLC (NIC), 232 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (337) 257-9036, spoke for information only regarding the review and approval for third-party convenience fee schedules and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to approve. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaulieu, Bourriaque, Butler, Farnum, McMahan, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Stefanski, and Willard voted yea.

COMMITTEE ROOM 3 TO BE USED FOR OVERFLOW

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Persons who do not feel comfortable giving testimony in person at this time may submit a prepared statement in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee:

A. Any interested person or any committee member may file with the committee a prepared statement concerning a specific instrument or matter under consideration by the committee or concerning any matter within the committee's scope of authority, and the committee records shall reflect receipt of such statement and the date and time thereof.

B. Any person who files a prepared statement which contains data or statistical information shall include in such prepared statement sufficient information to identify the source of the data or statistical information. For the purposes of this Paragraph, the term "source" shall mean a publication, website, person, or other source from which the data or statistical information contained in the prepared statement was obtained by the person or persons who prepared the statement.

NOTE: Statements emailed to leab@legis.la.gov and received prior to noon on Sunday, October 18, 2020, will be distributed to the committee members prior to the meeting.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaulieu, Bourriaque, Butler, Farnum, McMahan, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Stefanski, Willard voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Stuart J. Bishop
House Committee on Ways and Means