

House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice

Minutes of Meeting
2021 Regular Session
June 2, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Edward C. "Ted" James, II, chairman of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Edward C. "Ted" James, II, chairman
Representative Tony Bacala, vice chairman
Representative Marcus Anthony Bryant
Representative Bryan Fontenot
Representative Jonathan Goudeau, I
Representative Frederick Douglass Jones
Representative Joseph A. Marino, III
Representative Scott McKnight
Representative Nicholas Muscarello, Jr.
Representative Richard James Nelson
Representative Alan Seabaugh
Representative Debbie Villio

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative C. Denise Marcelle

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sadie Becnel, attorney
Stephanie Weinman, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Madeleine Murphy, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 69 by Senator Mizell

This is a continuation of the discussion on House Bill No. 69 from a meeting held on May 25, 2021. Please check for the prior action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 69.

Senator Mizell presented Senate Bill No. 69, which creates the crime of aggravated distribution of a controlled dangerous substance.

Warren Montgomery, 22nd JDC District Attorney's Office, 701 N. Columbia St. # 2, Covington, LA 70433, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 69.

Loren Lampert, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, 2525 Quail Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 343-0171, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 69.

Representative Marino offered amendments to:

- (1) Limit proposed law to distribution of a controlled dangerous substance that the offender knows to contain fentanyl and carfentanil.
- (2) Remove penalties that applied to a controlled dangerous substance other than fentanyl or carfentanil.

Representative Marino offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Bacala objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives James, Bryant, Jones, Marino, and Nelson voted yea. Representatives Bacala, Fontenot, Goudeau, McKnight, Muscarello, Seabaugh, and Villio voted nay.

Representative Villio offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 69 with amendments, to which Representative Marino objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 69 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas, 3 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Bacala, Fontenot, Goudeau, McKnight, Muscarello, Nelson, Seabaugh, and Villio voted yea. Representatives Bryant, Jones, and Marino voted nay. Representative James abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 5 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 12:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Edward C. "Ted" James, II
House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice