

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2021 Regular Session
May 4, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman
Representative Roy Daryl Adams
Representative Robby Carter
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Raymond J. Crews
Representative Michael Charles Echols
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Jason Hughes
Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Ed Larvadain, III
Representative Wayne McMahan
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen
Representative Thomas A. Pressly
Representative Larry Selders
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Christopher Turner, vice chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Meah Johnson, attorney

Allie King, committee administrative assistant
Kristy Neubrandner, committee administrative assistant
Nevonda S. Reed, division director

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms
Mia Ditta, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 181 by Representative Dustin Miller

Representative Dustin Miller presented House Bill No. 181, which provides relative to admitting privileges for psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners.

Nick Guillory, Oceans Healthcare, 1200 Camellia Boulevard, Suite 101, Lafayette, LA 70508, (337) 989-0071, spoke in support of House Bill No. 181.

Benjamin Lowenburg, Louisiana Psychiatric Medical Association (LPMA), 3926 Chestnut Street, New Orleans, LA 70115, (985) 249-1449, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 181.

Robert Blanche, LPMA, 7865 Jefferson Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 928-2468, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 181.

Cullen Burke, LPMA, 11163 Preservation Way, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 337-0133, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 181.

Abdul Majid Khan, LPMA, 778 Chevelle Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (504) 914-2533, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 181.

Karen Lyon, Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 755-7500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 181.

Representative Echols offered an amendment to delete proposed law revising a definition of "advanced practice registered nursing" in present law. Representative Echols offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Crews, Echols, Emerson, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Moore, Pressly, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Turner offered a motion to report House Bill No. 181 with amendments, to which Representative Pressly objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 181 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Echols, Emerson, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Moore, Stagni, and Turner voted yea. Representatives Crews, Robert Owen, and Pressly voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support, 6 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 79 by Representative McMahan

Chairman Bagley announced that action on House Bill No. 79 by Representative McMahan, which provides relative to treatment facilities for mental health patients, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 589 by Representative Duplessis

Chairman Bagley announced that action on House Bill No. 589 by Representative Duplessis, which provides relative to petitions for authorizing involuntary outpatient treatment, was voluntarily deferred.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 44 by Representative Bacala

Chairman Bagley announced that action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 44 by Representative Bacala, which authorizes and directs the La. Dept. of Health to include early detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's and other dementia diseases within programs and services of the office of public health, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 290 by Representative Robert Owen

Chairman Bagley announced that action on House Bill No. 290 by Representative Robert Owen, which joins Louisiana to the interstate compact known as the Solemn Covenant of the States to Award Prizes for Curing Diseases, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 317 by Representative Kerner

Representative Kerner presented House Bill No. 317, which establishes a fee to support testing and monitoring for harmful substances in imported seafood.

Justin Gremillion, Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 317.

Representative Turner in the chair.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 317 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 317 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Adams, Cox, Crews, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 269 by Representative Kerner

Representative Kerner presented House Bill No. 269, which provides relative to destruction of imported food which is subject to an import ban.

Chairman Bagley in the chair.

Justin Gremillion, LDH, 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 269.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 269 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 269 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Selders, and Stagni 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 Bill No. 197 by Representative Charles Owen

Representative Charles Owen presented House Bill No. 197, which provides relative to occupational licenses for dependents of healthcare professionals.

Representative Bagley offered technical amendments. Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Emerson, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Vincent Culotta, Jr., Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME), 630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 568-6816, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 197.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to:

1. Provide that for purposes of proposed law, "good standing" means a license which is unencumbered, unrestricted, and not on probation or subject to any stay or contract.
2. Provide that for purposes of proposed law, "scope of practice" means the procedures, actions, processes, and work that a person may perform under an occupational license or government certification issued in this state.
3. Provide that a professional or occupational licensing board shall issue a license, certification, permit pending normal license, or government certification to an applicant who is a healthcare professional and relocates to this state based upon the applicant holding an out-of-state license if, upon application to the board, the applicant satisfies all of the conditions provided in proposed law.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Emerson, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Eric Peterson, Pelican Institute, 342 Lafayette Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, info@pelicaninstitute.org, spoke in support of House Bill No. 197.

Arthur Hickham, Jr., Louisiana State Board of Dentistry, P.O. Box 5256, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 219-7330, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 197.

Representative Emerson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 197 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 197 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Emerson, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 472 by Representative Marino

Representative Marino presented House Bill No. 472, which provides relative to specialty licenses for the production of medical marijuana and the Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission.

Representative Stagni offered amendments to:

1. Insert language that addresses the Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission (JEDCO)'s partnership with Delgado Community College.

2. Require that, prior to December 1, 2021, JEDCO provide written notice to the commissioner of agriculture and forestry stating its intent to be licensed as a production facility.
3. Require the JEDCO facility to provide a cooperative endeavor agreement evidencing its partnership with Delgado Community College to the commissioner of agriculture and forestry.
4. Limit the JEDCO facility to contracting with only one entity for the purposes of cultivation and processing and require that the entity be geographically located within Jefferson Parish.
5. Require that the JEDCO facility not distribute any therapeutic marijuana prior to January 1, 2023.

No action was taken on the amendments.

Jerry Bologna, Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission, 700 Churchill Parkway, Avondale, LA 70094, (504) 289-9410, spoke in support of House Bill No. 472.

Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 472, to which Representative Stagni objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and action on House Bill No. 472 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Emerson, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Turner voted yea. Representative Stagni voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 12 in support and 2 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: 9 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Further action was taken by the committee on House Bill No. 472 on May 12, 2021, and May 18, 2021. Please check for the subsequent action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 472.

House Bill No. 193 by Representative Marcelle

Representative Marcelle presented House Bill No. 193, which creates the office on women's health within the La. Department of Health.

Representative Emerson offered amendments to prohibit the office on women's health created by proposed law from doing any of the following:

1. Utilizing any personnel or funding to promote abortion.
2. Coordinating with any entity that promotes abortion.

Representative Emerson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Echols, Emerson, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Representative Selders offered a motion to report House Bill No. 193 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 193 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Echols, Emerson, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 1 for information only. 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: 4 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 477 by Representative Stagni

Representative Stagni presented House Bill No. 477, which authorizes the La. State Board of Examiners of Psychologists to implement fees for certain services.

Jaime Monic, Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP), 4334 South Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 295-8410, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 477.

Amy Henke, LSBEP, 4334 South Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 295-8410, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 477.

Erin Reuther, Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA), 278 Audubon Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 914-7071, spoke in support of House Bill No. 477.

Matt Holcomb, LPA, 925 Gallier Street, New Orleans, LA 70117, (662) 630-2134, spoke in support of House Bill No. 477.

Emory Belton, 7266 Tom Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 615-0212, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 477.

Alan Taylor, 7931 Picardy Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, alantaylorphd@gmail.com, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 477.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 477 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 477 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

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

House Concurrent Resolution No. 42 by Representative Stagni

Representative Stagni presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 42, which requests the La. Department of Health to authorize coverage through the Medicaid managed care program for services delivered by chiropractic physicians.

Representative Selders offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 42 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 42 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 45 by Representative Bagley

Representative Stagni in the chair.

Representative Bagley presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 45, which requests a study concerning a potential system for tracking the location of children with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 45 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 45 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Crews, Echols, Emerson, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Selders, and Stagni 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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Bagley offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Crews, Echols, Emerson, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: