

House Committee on Insurance

Minutes of Meeting
2021 Regular Session
May 26, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Chad Brown, chairman of the House Committee on Insurance, called the meeting to order at 9:47 a.m. in Room 2, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Chad Brown, chairman
Representative Mary DuBuisson
Representative Kathy Edmonston
Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment
Representative Lawrence "Larry" Frieman
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Mike Huval
Representative John R. Illg, Jr.
Representative Edmond Jordan, vice chairman
Representative Sherman Q. Mack
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Matthew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Cedric B. Glover
Representative Paul Hollis

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rashida Keith, attorney
Adam Patrick, attorney
Alicia Powell, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms

Mia Ditta, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 179 by Senator Connick

This is a continuation of the discussion on Senate Bill No. 179 from the May 12, 2021, committee meeting. Please check for the prior action to complete the record of discussion and motions.

Vice Chairman Jordan in the chair.

On behalf of Senator Connick, Chairman Brown presented Senate Bill No. 179, which provides for automobile insurance coverage for transportation network drivers.

Representative Jordan offered amendments to:

- (1) Remove the exception for private passenger vehicles while the insured is logged on to a transportation network company's digital network during the pre-trip acceptance period;
- (2) Provide that prior to a transportation network company driver accepting rides, the company must give a disclosure to the driver regarding any liability coverage the company has rejected; and
- (3) Make technical changes.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firment, Frieman, Huval, Illg, Jordan, McCormick, and Willard voted yea.

Christian Rhodes, UBER, 504 Lakeland Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 802-7567, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 179.

Representative Brown offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 179 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 179 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firment, Frieman, Huval, Illg, Jordan, McCormick, 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.

Chairman Brown in the chair.

The committee stood at ease at 9:59 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:02 a.m.

Senate Bill No. 218 by Senator Fred Mills

Senator Fred Mills presented Senate Bill No. 218, which provides relative to the payment of pharmacy claims.

Representative Brown offered amendments to:

- (1) Require the individual performing the audit to attest, in writing, knowledge of Louisiana Pharmacy audit laws;
- (2) Make modifications to direct and indirect remuneration fees or any other reduction in payment;
- (3) Add a prohibition by a licensed pharmacy or pharmacist from dispensing a drug; and
- (4) Make technical changes.

Representative Brown offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, Edmonston, Frieman, Huval, Illg, Jordan, Mack, and McCormick voted yea.

Don Caffery, Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association, 543 Spanish Town Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (337) 280-6687, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 218.

T.J. Woodard, Prescriptions to Geaux, 313 Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 241-7563, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 218.

Peter H. Wolfe, Wolfe's Pharmacy, 6757 Hwy 56, Chauvin, LA 70344, (985) 594-4312, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 218.

Representative Brown offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative Brown offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firment, Frieman, Huval, Illg, Jordan, Mack, and McCormick voted yea.

Louis Reine, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), 429 Government St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 241-9725, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 218.

Christy Piti, Sav-RX, 224 North Park Ave., Fremont, NE 68025, (312) 543-7603, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 218.

Will Dane, Healthcare Distribution Alliance, 9608 N. Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA 22182, (571) 287-3020, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 218.

Representative Illg offered amendments to: (1) remove pharmacy services administrative organization; and (2) make technical changes. Representative Illg offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Huval objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Frieman, Green, Illg, Jordan, Mack, and Willard voted yea. Representatives Firmert and Huval voted nay.

Representative Mack offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on Senate Bill No. 218. Representative Huval objected. Representative Huval offered a substitute motion to report Senate Bill No. 218 with amendments.

Rob Rieger, Pharmaceutical Care Management Association, 450 Laurel St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 336-5200, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 218.

Representative Huval withdrew his motion. Without objection, action on Senate Bill No. 218 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firmert, Frieman, Green, Huval, Illg, Jordan, Mack, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 21 in support, 28 in opposition, and 1 for information only.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 1 in support and 3 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Brown announced the committee would meet on Wednesday, June 2, 2021.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Firment offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firment, Frieman, Green, Huval, Illg, and Mack voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Chad Brown
House Committee on Insurance

Date adopted: