

## **House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment**

Minutes of Meeting  
2021 Regular Session  
May 26, 2021

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan, chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan, chairman  
Representative Ryan Bourriaque, vice chairman  
Representative R. Dewith Carrier  
Representative Mack Marcel Cormier  
Representative Phillip R. DeVillier  
Representative Brett F. Geymann  
Representative Timothy P. Kerner  
Representative Buddy Mincey, Jr.  
Representative Joseph A. Orgeron  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative William "Bill" Wheat, Jr.

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Rhonda Gaye Butler  
Representative Mandie Landry  
Representative Neil Riser  
Representative Troy D. Romero

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tyler Bosworth, legislative analyst  
Robin Stalder, attorney  
Trinicia Bryant, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****Senate Bill No. 185 by Senator Allain**

Senator Allain presented Senate Bill No. 185, which provides for regulation of leases of land for solar farms.

Mr. Joe Mapes, Louisiana Farm Bureau, 731 Lakeland Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802, (225) 268-8572, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 185.

Mr. Blake Canfield, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, 617 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802, (225) 342-3024, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 185.

Mr. Stephen Wright, Gulf South Renewable Energy Association, 695 Kiskatom Lane, no city and state provided, no zip code provided, (318) 663-3810, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 185.

Representative DeVillier offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 185 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 185 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Bourriague, Carrier, Cormier, DeVillier, Geymann, Mincey, Orgeron, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

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

**Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 44 by Senator Hensgens**

Senator Hensgens presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 44, which creates the Risk Charge Commission to study current law and consider making recommendations regarding the costs and risks in drilling a well in a unit.

Representative Mincey offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 44 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 44 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Bourriague, Carrier, Cormier, DeVillier, Geymann, Mincey, Orgeron, Schamerhorn, and Wheat 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.

**Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 34 by Senator Hewitt**

On behalf of Senator Hewitt, Mr. Kevin Hayes, Louisiana Landowners Association, 412 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802, (225) 268-2725, presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 34, which requests the Department of Natural Resources, office of coastal management, to review permitting cycle times and to make recommendations to expedite the permitting process.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 34 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 34 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Bourriaque, Carrier, Cormier, DeVillier, Geymann, Mincey, Orgeron, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support and 1 for information only. 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 Wheat offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Bourriaque, Carrier, Cormier, DeVillier, Geymann, Mincey, Orgeron, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Jean-Paul P. Coussan  
House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Date adopted: