

## **House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works**

Minutes of Meeting  
2021 Regular Session  
April 14, 2021

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

Representative Vincent J. Pierre, chairman of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Vincent J. Pierre, chairman  
Representative Kendrick "Ken" Brass, vice chairman  
Representative Mack Marcel Cormier  
Representative Kathy Edmonston  
Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment  
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg  
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry  
Representative Dodie Horton  
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative Larry Selders

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Cedric B. Glover  
Representative C. Travis Johnson  
Representative Charles Anthony Owen  
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen

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

LeeAnne Sharlow, attorney  
Carlesia Bibbins, attorney  
Brandy Phillips, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms  
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms  
Claire Dill, clerk

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

**House Bill No. 96 by Representative Jenkins**

Representative Jenkins presented House Bill No. 96, which redesignates a portion of United States Highway 171 in Shreveport as the "Elbert W. 'Eddie' Giles Memorial Highway".

Representative Pierre offered amendments to:

1. Change the highway referenced in the redesignation from U.S. Hwy. 171 to La. Hwy. 3094.

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 96 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 96 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

**House Bill No. 102 by Representative Jenkins**

Representative Jenkins presented House Bill No. 102, which designates a portion of Louisiana Highway 173 in Caddo Parish as the "Coach Carl Pierson Memorial Highway".

Mr. Guy Cormier, Police Jury Association of Louisiana, 707 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 343-2835, spoke in support of House Bill No. 102.

Representative Cormier offered a motion to report House Bill No. 102 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 102 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

**House Bill No. 97 by Representative Thompson**

Representative Thompson presented House Bill No. 97, which designates a portion of United States Highway 425 in the town of Mangham as the "Marshall Waters, Jr. Memorial Highway".

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 97 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 97 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

**House Bill No. 178 by Representative Brown**

Representative Brown presented House Bill No. 178, which redesignates a portion of Louisiana Highway 77 in the Village of Grosse Tete as the "Veterans Memorial Highway".

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 178 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 178 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

**House Bill No. 363 by Representative Tarver**

Representative Tarver presented House Bill No. 363, which provides relative to the Protect Wild Dolphins special prestige license plates.

Representative Pierre offered technical amendments. Representative Pierre offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Representative Cormier offered a motion to report House Bill No. 363 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 363 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders 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.

**House Bill No. 601 by Representative Goudeau**

Representative Goudeau presented House Bill No. 601, which creates the pelicans specialty license plate.

Dr. Libbie Sonnier, Louisiana Policy Institute for Children, Baton Rouge, LA, (985) 687-7494, spoke in support of House Bill No. 601.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 601 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 601 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders 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 Bill No. 505 by Representative Adams**

Representative Adams presented House Bill No. 505, which creates the "West Feliciana Parish Schools" specialty license plate.

Mr. Hollis Milton, West Feliciana Parish School Board, 4727 Fidelity Street, St. Francisville, LA 70775, (225) 932-6707, spoke in support of House Bill No. 505.

Representative Pierre offered amendments to:

1. Require the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to issue a special prestige license plate to be known as the "En francais S.V.P" license plate, provided there is a minimum of 1,000 applicants for such plate.
2. Require the secretary to work in conjunction with the Saint LUC French Immersion and Cultural Campus Board of Directors to select the copy and design of the plate, provided the design is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). Require the design include the phrase "Saint LUC. En francais SVP" and a prominent logo.
3. Add a provision to specify the license plate be issued, upon application, to any citizen of Louisiana in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.
4. Require the department to collect an annual royalty fee of \$25 in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax and a \$3.50 handling fee for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.
5. Require that monies received from the royalty fees be disbursed solely to fund programming at the Saint LUC French Immersion and Cultural Campus.
6. Require the secretary to promulgate and adopt rules and regulations to implement the provisions of proposed law.

7. Direct the office of motor vehicles to create the "En francais S.V.P" specialty license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and its system is updated to accommodate the creation of new plates.
8. Make technical changes.

Representative Pierre offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 505 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 505 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 224 by Representative Bryant**

Representative Bryant presented House Bill No. 224, which redesignates a portion of certain Louisiana highways and the Ramos Bridge on Highway 90.

Representative Pierre offered amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Add a provision to redesignate a portion of United States Highway 90 that passes from parish line to parish line through St. Mary Pary as the "Mike Foster Memorial Parkway".
3. Add a provision that requires local or private monies for the "Mike Foster Memorial Parkway" be issued to the department equal to the department's actual costs for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of each sign, not to exceed the sum of five hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Representative Pierre offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Representative Selders offered a motion to report House Bill No. 224 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 224 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

**House Bill No. 413 by Representative Nelson**

Representative Nelson presented House Bill No. 413, which designates a portion of North Causeway Boulevard in St. Tammany Parish as the "Captain Vincent 'Vinny' Liberto, Jr., Memorial Overpass".

Representative Pierre offered amendments to:

1. Change the memorial overpass designation from "Captain Vincent 'Vinny' Liberto, Jr." to "Captain Vincent N. Liberto, Jr".

Representative Pierre offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 413 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 413 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders 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.

*Vice Chairman Brass in the chair.*

**House Bill No. 198 by Representative Pierre**

Representative Pierre presented House Bill No. 198, which provides relative to Louisiana vehicle license plates.

Representative Moore offered a motion to report House Bill No. 198 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 198 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support. Additionally, a letter of support submitted on behalf of Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser was read into record. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

*Chairman Pierre in the chair.*

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

Approval of minutes from meetings of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works held in the 2020 Regular Session on March 16, May 5, May 11, and May 18, 2020; in the First Extraordinary Session on June 11, 2020; and in the Second Extraordinary Session on October 6 and October 19, 2020.

Representative Horton offered a motion to approve the minutes. Without objection, the minutes were approved by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, and Selders voted yea.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Firment offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Vincent J. Pierre  
House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Date adopted:

The committee has acknowledged on \_\_\_\_\_, that these minutes were prepared in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives.