

House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Minutes of Meeting
2021 Regular Session
May 3, 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 9:35 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 C. Travis Johnson
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Charles Anthony Owen
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative Larry Selders

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Cedric B. Glover
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
Claire Dill, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 44 by Representative DeVillier**

Representative DeVillier presented House Bill No. 44, which provides for an additional exception when hauling construction aggregates.

Mr. Cole Frey, Frey Construction, 161 West Maple Avenue, Eunice, LA 70535, (337) 457-5100, spoke in support of House Bill No. 44. He provided a photo, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Secretary Shawn Wilson, DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 379-1200, spoke for information only.

Mr. Mark Morrison, Louisiana State Police, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70760, (225) 925-6113, spoke for information only.

Lt. Robert Burns, Louisiana State Police, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 925-4239, spoke for information only.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 44 favorably, to which Representative Selders objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 44 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Charles Owen, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representatives Pierre, Brass, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, and Selders voted nay.

House Bill No.116 by Representative Devillier

Representative Pierre announced that action on House Bill No. 116, which requires law enforcement officers have reasonable belief of a weight violation prior to checking the weight of certain vehicles, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 632 by Representative DeVillier

Representative DeVillier presented House Bill No. 632, which authorizes a special permit to include a divisible load.

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 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Charles Owen, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Mr. Jeremy Frey, Louisiana Crane & Construction LLC, 1045 Highway 190 West, Eunice, LA 70535, (237) 550-6217, spoke in support of House Bill No. 632.

Secretary Shawn Wilson, DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 379-1200, spoke for information only.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 632 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 632 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Charles Owen, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

House Bill No. 381 by Representative Moore

Representative Moore presented House Bill No. 381, which provides relative to motor vehicle accident reports.

Representative Pierre offered an amendment to:

1. Remove a provision that would have prohibited a third party from selling or distributing any data contained in the crash reports.
2. Authorize a third party vendor under contract with a state or local agency to sell individual crash reports on behalf of the agency. Prohibit third-party vendors from selling or distributing any aggregated or compiled data owned by the state of Louisiana.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Charles Owen, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Lt. Robert Burns, Louisiana State Police, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 925-4239, spoke for information only.

Representative Brass offered a motion to report House Bill No. 381 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 381 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Pierre, Brass, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, and Selders 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.

House Bill No. 620 by Representative Bagley

Representative Bagley presented House Bill No. 620, which provides relative to the fee and gross vehicle weight limits and axle weight limits for special permits.

Representative Pierre offered an amendment to:

1. Change the number of single or individual axles in proposed law from six to seven.

Representative Pierre offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, and Selders voted yea.

Mr. Rusty Williams, 14684 Highway 175, Mayfield, LA, (318) 871-7199, spoke for information only.

Secretary Shawn Wilson, DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 379-1200, spoke for information only.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 620 with amendments, to which Representative Freiberg objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 620 was reported with amendments by a vote of 6 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Edmonston, Firment, Horton, Moore, Charles Owen, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Freiberg, Gadberry, and Selders voted nay.

House Bill No. 606 by Representative Brass

Representative Brass presented House Bill No. 606, which provides for the Department of Transportation and Development design-build contracts.

Representative Pierre offered technical amendments. Representative Brass 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, Brass, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Moore, Charles Owen, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

Secretary Shawn Wilson, DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 379-1200, spoke for information only.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 606 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 606 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Charles Owen, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Vice Chairman Brass in the chair.

House Bill No. 608 by Representative Gaines

Representative Pierre announced that action on House Bill No. 608, which provides for \$100,000 death benefit for an employee of the Department of Transportation and Development who is killed in a hazardous situation in the course and scope of his employment, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 636 by Representative Pierre

Representative Pierre presented House Bill No. 636, which provides relative to the Department of Transportation and Development's authority over high-occupancy vehicle lanes on state highways.

Representative Pierre offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Pierre offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Charles Owen, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

Secretary Shawn Wilson, DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 379-1200, spoke for information only.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 636 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 636 was reported by substitute by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Charles Owen, 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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Horton offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pierre, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Charles Owen, Schamerhorn, and Selders voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.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.