

## **House Committee on Commerce**

Minutes of Meeting  
2022 Regular Session  
March 21, 2022

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

Representative Paula P. Davis, chairman of the House Committee on Commerce, called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Paula P. Davis, chairman  
Representative Kenny R. Cox  
Representative Royce Duplessis  
Representative Adrian Fisher  
Representative Bryan Fontenot  
Representative Jonathan Goudeau, I  
Representative Stephanie Hilferty, vice chairman  
Representative Candace N. Newell  
Representative Thomas A. Pressly  
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III  
Representative Polly Thomas

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.  
Representative Paul Hollis  
Representative Edmond Jordan  
Representative Scott McKnight  
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

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

Charlotte Cravins, attorney  
Halie Guidry, attorney  
Felicie Jackson, executive assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms  
Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms  
Victoria Grant, committee clerk

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Bill No. 641 by Representative Deshotel**

Representative Davis announced that action on House Bill No. 641, which provides relative to digital application distribution platforms, was voluntarily deferred.

**House Bill No. 724 by Representative Bagley**

Representative Bagley presented House Bill No. 724, which establishes a grant program for site development and improvement.

Representative Davis offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative Davis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Justyn Dixon, North Louisiana Economic Partnership, 333 Texas St., Ste. 411, Shreveport, LA 71106, (318) 677-2512, spoke in support of House Bill No. 724.

Representative Pressly offered a motion to report House Bill No. 724 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 724 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 1 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

*Representative Hilferty in the chair.*

**House Bill No. 822 by Representative Davis**

Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 822, which provides relative to exemptions for ear piercing.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 822 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 822 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas 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. 783 by Representative Davis**

Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 783, which provides for technical corrections and revision of provisions of Title 8 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Representative Hilferty offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative Hilferty offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 783 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 783 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

**House Bill No. 684 by Representative Davis**

Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 684, which provides relative to admission tickets.

David Tatman, Stub Hub, 3043 Old Forge Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 767-7640, spoke in support of House Bill No. 684.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 684 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 684 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

**House Bill No. 708 by Representative McFarland**

On behalf of Representative McFarland, Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 708, which defines biomass as it relates to the Louisiana Renewable Energy Development Act.

Representative Hilferty offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative Hilferty offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Hilferty offered amendments which:

- (1) Add to the legislative findings that energy from agricultural harvesting, including bagasse from sugarcane processing, is required to be considered renewable and carbon neutral.
- (2) Define "sugarcane bagasse biomass" as the solid waste from sugarcane processing, including factory bagasse from industrial processing, farm bagasse from on-farm or small factory processing, and dewatered pulp from bagasse and recognized in federal present law.

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Adam Haddox, Louisiana Pulp and Paper Association, 1331 Lakeridge Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, no phone number provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 708.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 708 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 708 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas 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.

*Representative Davis in the chair.*

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

## V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Thomas offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Paula P. Davis  
House Committee on Commerce

Date adopted: