

House Committee on Commerce

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
March 22, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Paula P. Davis, chairman of the House Committee on Commerce, called the meeting to order at 9:40 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 Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Stephanie Hilferty, vice chairman
Representative Scott McKnight
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Thomas A. Pressly
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver
Representative Polly Thomas

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Paul Hollis
Representative Edmond Jordan

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Victoria Grant, committee clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 233 by Representative Edmonston**

Representative Davis announced that action on House Bill No. 233, which provides relative to the Life Safety and Property Protection Licensing Act, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 575 by Representative Seabaugh

Representative Davis announced that action on House Bill No. 575, which provides relative to the fuel point limits, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 639 by Representative Pressly

Representative Davis announced that action on House Bill No. 639, which provides relative to occupational licensing for workers with criminal histories, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 326 by Representative Stefanski

Representative Stefanski presented House Bill No. 326, which provides relative to historical horse racing fees.

Representative Davis offered a motion to report House Bill No. 326 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 326 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

House Bill No. 659 by Representative Stefanski

Representative Stefanski presented House Bill No. 659, which provides relative to the salary of the executive director of the La. State Board of Private Investigators.

Representative Davis offered a motion to report House Bill No. 659 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 659 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

House Bill No. 740 by Representative Mincey

Representative Mincey presented House Bill No. 740, which provides relative to the sale, transportation, and acceptance of propane and other fuels during a declared natural disaster.

Representative Davis offered amendments to specify that a declared natural disaster is a disaster or emergency declared in accordance with the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, R.S. 29:721 et seq. Representative Davis 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, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Davis offered a motion to report House Bill No. 740 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 740 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Tarver 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. 641 by Representative Deshotel

Representative Deshotel presented House Bill No. 641, which provides relative to digital application distribution platforms.

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 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, McKnight, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Rick Van Meter, Coalition for App Fairness, 777 6th St. NW, Washington, DC 20001, (859) 333-0149, spoke in support of House Bill No. 641.

Caleb Williamson, Association for Competitive Technology/ The App Association, 1404 K St. NW, Ste. 501, Washington, DC 20002, (347) 573-2436, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 641.

Larry Murray, TechNet, 3650 Morning Glory Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 413-8705, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 641.

Zachary Lilly, NetChoice, 1401 K St. NW, Washington, DC 20005, (425) 420-8167, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 641.

Kevin Ainsworth, Valve Corporation, 445 North Blvd., Ste. 800, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 248-2036, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 641.

Representative Davis offered a motion to report House Bill No. 641 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 641 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

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

Statements submitted in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 7 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 670 by Representative Butler

Representative Davis announced that House Bill No. 670, which provides relative to examination and licensing fees, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 598 by Representative Selders

Representative Selders presented House Bill No. 598, which prohibits a building inspector from using his discretion in determining the applicability of building codes.

Representative Selders submitted a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Warren Byrd, Louisiana Department of Insurance, 1702 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-5203, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 598.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 598 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 598 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Green, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Pressly offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Green, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Paula P. Davis
House Committee on Commerce

Date adopted: