

## House Committee on Commerce

Minutes of Meeting  
2022 Regular Session  
April 26, 2022

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Paula P. Davis, chairman of the House Committee on Commerce, called the meeting to order at 9:49 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### II. ROLL CALL

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Paula P. Davis, chairman  
Representative Royce Duplessis  
Representative Adrian Fisher  
Representative Jonathan Goudeau, I  
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.  
Representative Stephanie Hilferty, vice chairman  
Representative Edmond Jordan  
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 Kenny R. Cox  
Representative Bryan Fontenot  
Representative Paul Hollis

#### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charlotte Cravins, attorney  
Halie Guidry, attorney  
Felicie Jackson, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Victoria Grant, committee clerk  
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms  
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms  
Nevonda Reed-Dobard, division director

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Bill No. 971 by Representative Romero**

Representative Romero presented House Bill No. 971, which provides relative to home improvement contracting.

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 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 971 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 971 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Green, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

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

**House Bill No. 574 by Representative Pierre**

Representative Davis announced that action on House Bill No. 574, which provides relative to used motor vehicle dealers, was voluntarily deferred.

**House Bill No. 788 by Representative Romero**

Representative Davis announced that action on House Bill No. 788, which provides for an out-of-state contractor database, was voluntarily deferred.

**House Bill No. 950 by Representative Boyd**

Representative Davis announced that action on House Bill No. 950, which provides relative to mortgage companies, was voluntarily deferred.

**House Bill No. 1048 by Representative McKnight**

Representative Davis announced that action on House Bill No. 1048, which provides relative to economic development, was voluntarily deferred.

**House Bill No. 565 by Representative Bacala**

Representative Bacala presented House Bill No. 565, which provides relative to duties of the fire marshal.

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 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Green, Jordan, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Gary Lacombe, P.O. Box 725, Gonzales, LA 70707, (225) 644-5495, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 565.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 565 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 565 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Hilferty, Jordan, McKnight, Newell, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

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

**House Bill No. 610 by Representative Green**

Representative Green presented House Bill No. 610, which provides relative to student loans.

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, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, Jordan, McKnight, Newell, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Davis offered amendments to:

- (1) Modify the definition of "service".
- (2) Remove the requirement that certain actions be done knowingly or recklessly in order for such activity to be prohibited pursuant to proposed law.

- (3) Remove provisions relative to the enforcement of proposed law.
- (4) Make technical changes.

Winston Berkman-Breen, Student Borrower Protection Center, 1025 Connecticut Ave., #717, Washington, DC 20035, (617) 959-4386, spoke in support of House Bill No. 610.

Davante Lewis, Louisiana Budget Project, 619 Jefferson Hwy., Ste. 1-D, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, [davante@labudget.org](mailto:davante@labudget.org), spoke in support of House Bill No. 610.

Representative Davis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Green, McKnight, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Green offered a motion to report House Bill No. 610 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 610 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Green, McKnight, 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.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 1 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 1039 by Representative McKnight**

Representative McKnight presented House Bill No. 1039, which provides relative to life safety and property protection systems.

Representative Davis offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Authorize a fee for hanging tags used for electronically tagging life safety and property protection systems.
- (3) Exclude QR code decals and hanging tags used for the electronic tagging of certain life safety and property protection equipment from such fee.
- (4) Decrease the proposed electronic tagging fee.

- (5) Assess a fifty cent transaction fee per instance of a firm with a certain endorsement accessing a QR code on a portable fire extinguisher.

Representative Davis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Jordan, McKnight, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1039 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 1039 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, McKnight, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Butch Browning, State Fire Marshal, 8181 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 806-0803, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1039.

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. 668 by Representative Phelps**

Representative Phelps presented House Bill No. 668, which provides relative to credit unions.

Representative Edmond Jordan, District No. 29, 2370 Towne Center Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 925-3700, spoke in support of House Bill No. 668.

Representative Hilferty offered amendments to:

- (1) Modify the calculation for determining the maximum amount of insurance coverage available to a credit union by specifying that any principal coverage shall be added to any excess coverage provided by a private sector insurer.
- (2) 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, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Hilferty, Jordan, McKnight, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Davis offered a motion to report House Bill No. 668 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 668 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Hilferty, Jordan, McKnight, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 1023 by Representative Farnum**

Representative Farnum presented House Bill No. 1023, which provides relative to the deposit and disbursement of insurance proceeds.

Representative Davis offered amendments to in the form of a substitute bill. 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, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, McKnight, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Joe Gendron, Louisiana Bankers Association, 5555 Bankers Association Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, [gendron@lba.org](mailto:gendron@lba.org), spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 1023.

David Boneno, Louisiana Bankers Association, 5555 Bankers Association Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 229-4836, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 1023.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1023 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 1023 was reported by substitute by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, Jordan, McKnight, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 1 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 675 by Representative Jordan**

Representative Jordan presented House Bill No. 675, which provides relative to consumer credit loans and transactions.

Davante Lewis, Louisiana Budget Project, 619 Jefferson Hwy., Ste. 1-D, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, [davante@labudget.org](mailto:davante@labudget.org), spoke in support of House Bill No. 675.

Steve Webb, Neighbors Federal Credit Union, 37340 Oak Grove Ct., Denham Springs, LA 70706, (225) 953-5075, spoke in support of House Bill No. 675.

Jessie McCormick, Community Choice Financial, 714 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 202-1875, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 675.

Danny Ford, Louisiana Payday Loan Association, 532 Spanish Town Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 247-4100, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 675.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 675 favorably, to which Representative Pressly objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 8 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Fisher, Green, Jordan, and Newell voted yea. Representatives Davis, Goudeau, Hilferty, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted nay.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 675. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 675 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Fisher, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, Jordan, McKnight, Newell, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 10 in support and 9 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

*Representative Hilferty in the chair.*

### **House Bill No. 934 by Representative Robby Carter**

Representative Robby Carter presented House Bill No. 934, which repeals an exemption from the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law for insurance regulators.

Rodney Braxton, State Farm, 543 Spanish Town Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 806-2522, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 934.

Kevin Cunningham, American Property Casualty Insurance Association, 543 Spanish Town Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 268-2730, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 934.

On behalf of Commissioner Jim Donelon, David Caldwell, Louisiana Department of Insurance, 1702 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-5000, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 934.

*Representative Davis in the chair.*

Representative Green offered a motion to report House Bill No. 934 favorably, to which Representative Pressly objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Green, Hilferty, and Jordan voted yea. Representatives Davis, Goudeau, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted nay.

Representative Davis offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 934. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 934 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Davis, Duplessis, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, Jordan, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support and 3 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Resolution No. 77 by Representative Edmonston**

Representative Edmonston presented House Resolution No. 77, which authorizes and directs the office of state fire marshal to study the current application of the Life Safety and Property Protection Licensing Act relative to persons convicted of felony crimes of violence and felony crimes against property.

Representative Pressly offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 77 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 77 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Goudeau, Green, Jordan, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas 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.

*Representative Thomas in the chair.*

### **House Bill No. 300 by Representative DeVillier**

On behalf of Representative DeVillier, Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 300, which provides relative to licensure for plumbers.

Representative Davis offered amendments to:

- (1) Add provisions allowing persons holding either of the two restricted licenses, which are being removed from present law, to receive an unrestricted license if certain conditions are met.
- (2) Add a provision specifying that the board may deny issuance of an unrestricted license for failure to comply with any additional licensing requirements not provided for in present law.
- (3) Make technical changes.



Representative Davis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Goudeau, Green, Jordan, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to report House Bill No. 300 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 300 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Goudeau, Green, Jordan, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 2 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 Green offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Goudeau, Green, Jordan, McKnight, Pressly, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Thomas voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Paula P. Davis  
House Committee on Commerce

Date adopted: