

House Committee on Commerce

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
May 2, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stephanie Hilferty, vice chairman of the House Committee on Commerce, called the meeting to order at 9:52 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Royce Duplessis
Representative Adrian Fisher
Representative Bryan Fontenot
Representative Jonathan Goudeau, I
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Stephanie Hilferty, vice chairman
Representative Paul Hollis
Representative Edmond Jordan
Representative Vanessa Caston LaFleur
Representative Scott McKnight
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Thomas A. Pressly
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Paula P. Davis, chairman
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Polly Thomas

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
Nevonda Reed Dobard, division director

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 342 by Representative Hodges**

Representative Hilferty announced that action on House Bill No. 342, which provides relative to discrimination by financial institutions, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 805 by Representative Green

Representative Hilferty announced that action on House Bill No. 805, which provides for insurance proceeds disbursement plans, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 950 by Representative Boyd

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

House Bill No. 985 by Representative Wright

Representative Hilferty announced that action on House Bill No. 985, which provides relative to virtual currency, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 1000 by Representative Hollis

Representative Hilferty announced that action on House Bill No. 1000, which provides relative to notice requirements for excavation by communications operators or excavators, was voluntarily deferred.

Senate Bill No. 14 by Senator Pope

Senator Pope presented Senate Bill No. 14, which provides relative to the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers.

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 14 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 14 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives

Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, Hollis, LaFleur, McKnight, and St. Blanc 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.

Senate Bill No. 431 by Senator Robert Mills

Senator Robert Mills presented Senate Bill No. 431, which provides relative to offtrack wagering facility locations.

Joe Mapes, Louisiana Downs Racetrack, 731 Lakeland Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 268-8572, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 431.

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 431 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 431 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Hollis, LaFleur, McKnight, and St. Blanc voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 997 by Representative Duplessis

Representative Duplessis presented House Bill No. 997, which provides relative to interment of military personnel.

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 997. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 997 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Hollis, LaFleur, McKnight, and St. Blanc voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 801 by Representative Goudeau

Representative Goudeau presented House Bill No. 801, which provides relative to scrap metal recyclers.

Representative Hilferty offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Hilferty offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were

adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Hollis, LaFleur, McKnight, and St. Blanc voted yea.

Steve Duke, Louisiana Recyclers Association, P.O. Box 80029, Baton Rouge, LA 70898, (225) 324-6960, spoke in support of House Bill No. 801 and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Chip DeJean, Louisiana Recyclers Association, 2527 South Westport Dr., Port Allen, LA 70767, (225) 389-1108, spoke in support of House Bill No. 801.

Will Green, Louisiana Automobile Dealers Association, 7526 Picardy Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (318) 464-1202, spoke in support of House Bill No. 801.

Representative Hollis offered a motion to report House Bill No. 801 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 801 was reported by substitute by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Hollis, Jordan, LaFleur, McKnight, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted 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. 564 by Representative Amedee

Representative Amedee presented House Bill No. 564, which creates a regulatory sandbox program within the office of financial institutions.

Representative Hilferty offered amendments to:

- (1) Create a pilot program limited to five applicants.
- (2) Add reporting requirements from the commission at the end of the program to submit to the legislature with legislative suggestions.
- (3) Add the purpose of the program.
- (4) Make technical changes.

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

Eric Peterson, Pelican Center, 400 Poydras St., Ste. 900, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 481-9931, spoke in support of House Bill No. 564 and provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Makesha Judson, Louisiana Economic Development, 617 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 773-2445, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 564.

Stan Dameron, Office of Financial Institutions, 8660 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (985) 705-5190, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 564.

Jonathan D. Finley, Office of Financial Institutions, 8660 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 362-1385, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 564.

Michelle Jeansome, Office of Financial Institutions, 8660 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 330-9001, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 564.

Tatum R. Cave, Compass Mining, 732 Village Rd., Apt. A, Kenner, LA 70065, (601) 497-5294, spoke in support of House Bill No. 564.

Ajit Alapati, 6850 Fountain Ln., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 588-8859, spoke in support of House Bill No. 564.

Jameson Quave, Quave Capital, 3149 State Street Dr., New Orleans, LA 70125, (985) 507-2053, spoke in support of House Bill No. 564.

Noah Newman, Renew Industries, Incorporated, 6644 Langley Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 573-4523, spoke in support of House Bill No. 564.

Sophie Zaken, Alliance for Affordable Energy and Sierra Club Delta Chapter, 4505 South Claiborne Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 517-3091, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 564.

Joe Gendron, Louisiana Bankers Association, 5555 Bankers Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 788-8748, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 564.

David Boneno, Louisiana Bankers Association, 5555 Bankers Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 229-4836, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 564.

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 564. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 564 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Hilferty, Hollis, Jordan, LaFleur, McKnight, Newell, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support and 4 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 802 by Representative Wright

Representative Wright presented House Bill No. 802, which provides relative to digital assets.

Representative Hilferty offered amendments to:

- (1) Remove provisions of proposed law relative to certain definitions, the provision of custodial services, written notice, cumulative application, a qualified custodian, prohibited actions, and rulemaking.
- (2) Define "bank", "custody services", "self-assessment", and "virtual currency".
- (3) Allow a bank to provide virtual currency custody services if the bank complies with certain requirements provided for in proposed law.
- (4) Allow a bank to provide virtual currency custody services in a nonfiduciary capacity and place certain requirements on a bank acting in such a capacity.
- (5) Allow a bank to provide virtual currency custody services in a fiduciary capacity and place certain requirements on a bank acting in such a capacity.
- (6) 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 Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Hollis, Jordan, McKnight, Newell, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 802 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 802 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Goudeau, Hilferty, Hollis, LaFleur, McKnight, Newell, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 3 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 993 by Representative Edmonds

Representative Edmonds presented House Bill No. 993, which provides a right of conscience protection for marriage and family therapists.

Representative Hollis in the chair.

Howie Brownell, Louisiana Association for Marriage & Family Therapy, 330 West Virginia Ave., Vivian, LA 71082, (318) 564-1950, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 993.

Representative Fisher offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 993. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 993 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Green, Hilferty, Hollis, Jordan, LaFleur, McKnight, Newell, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted ye.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support and 2 in opposition. 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 Jordan offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Duplessis, Fisher, Fontenot, Green, Hilferty, Hollis, Jordan, LaFleur, McKnight, Newell, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted ye.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Paula P. Davis
House Committee on Commerce

Date adopted: