

## House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting  
2022 Regular Session  
April 19, 2022

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### II. ROLL CALL

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman  
Representative Roy Daryl Adams  
Representative Raymond J. Crews  
Representative Michael Charles Echols  
Representative Julie Emerson  
Representative Jason Hughes  
Representative C. Travis Johnson  
Representative Ed Larvadain, III  
Representative Wayne McMahan  
Representative Dustin Miller  
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen  
Representative Thomas A. Pressly  
Representative Larry Selders  
Representative Joseph A. Stagni  
Representative Christopher Turner, vice chairman  
Representative Tanner D. Magee, ex officio

#### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Robby Carter  
Representative Kenny R. Cox  
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore

#### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Meah Johnson, attorney  
Drew Murray, legislative analyst

Kristy Neubrandner, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Representative Joseph Marino  
Representative Vincent Pierre  
Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms  
Stephen Louis, assistant sergeant at arms  
Danny Leming, assistant chief sergeant at arms  
Nevonda Reed, division director

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

**House Concurrent Resolution No. 39 by Representative Butler**

On behalf of Representative Butler, Representative Echols presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 39, which requests a study and recommendations concerning barriers to hiring of direct support professionals who provide Medicaid-covered services to people with disabilities.

Representative Bagley offered a technical amendment. Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Pressly, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

The committee stood at ease at 8:41 a.m. The committee reconvened at 8:43 a.m.

Representative Echols offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 39 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 39 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Turner, and Magee 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.

**House Concurrent Resolution No. 36 by Representative Dustin Miller**

Representative Dustin Miller presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 36, which continues the Healthcare Workplace Violence Task Force created by HCR No. 121 of the 2021 RS.

Representative Dustin Miller offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 36 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 36 was reported favorably by a vote

of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Turner, and Magee 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.

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 64 by Representative Freeman**

On behalf of Representative Freeman, Michelle Erenberg, Lift Louisiana, 3157 Gentilly Boulevard, Suite 2327, New Orleans, LA 70122, (504) 484-9636, presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 64, which provides for a study relative to certain programs of crisis pregnancy centers.

Shavana Howard, Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services, 627 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 400-3311, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 64.

Sarah Zagorski, Louisiana Right to Life, 200 Allen Toussaint Boulevard, 70124, (504) 835-6520, spoke in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution No. 64.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 64 favorably, to which Representative Crews objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Concurrent Resolution No. 64 was reported favorably by a vote of 6 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Travis Johnson, Dustin Miller, Selders, and Stagni voted yea. Representatives Crews, Echols, McMahan, Robert Owen, and Turner voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 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: 7 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 35 by Representative Bacala**

Representative Bacala presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 35, which requests a study and recommendations to the legislature concerning means by which to eliminate "benefits cliffs" in public assistance programs.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to revise findings and delete a reference to the Kinship Care Subsidy Program. Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives

Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Echols offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 35 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 35 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

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

### **House Bill No. 190 by Representative Travis Johnson**

Representative Travis Johnson presented House Bill No. 190, which authorizes certain nurse practitioners to recommend medical marijuana to patients.

Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 190 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 190 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support, 2 in opposition, and 1 for information only. 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. 203 by Representative Magee**

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 203, which provides relative to the timeline for the issuance of death certificates.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to:

- (1) Require the state registrar to issue a death certificate within 10 business days after his receipt of the applicant's request.
- (2) Establish criteria for the state registrar's provision of the death certificate to be deemed timely.
- (3) Make technical corrections.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Representative Echols offered a motion to report House Bill No. 203 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 203 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Selders, and Stagni 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. 697 by Representative Magee**

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 697, which reforms the state systems for regulating the production of marijuana for therapeutic use and for the dispensing of such product.

Representative Stagni offered amendments to:

- (1) Transfer duties with respect to testing of medical marijuana provided in proposed law from the La. Board of Pharmacy to the La. Department of Health.
- (2) Require that the La. Department of Health (LDH) temporarily follow existing administrative rules relative to medical marijuana promulgated by the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry until such time as LDH adopts all necessary emergency rules and permanent rules relating to cultivation, extraction, processing, production, and transportation of such product.
- (3) Revise the process provided for in proposed law for issuance of additional marijuana pharmacy licenses by the La. Board of Pharmacy.
- (4) Revise the regional structure established in proposed law for allocation of marijuana pharmacy licenses by providing that the regions shall correspond to the sets of parishes comprising, respectively, the human services districts and authorities established in present law (R.S. 28:912).
- (5) Revise limitations and restrictions provided in proposed law with respect to proximity of licensed marijuana pharmacies to each other.
- (6) Require that on and after October 1, 2022, at least one licensed marijuana pharmacy shall be located in each region.

- (7) Authorize the University of Louisiana at Monroe to conduct research on marijuana for therapeutic use.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to require that each marijuana pharmacy offer home delivery to patients in each zip code within its region at least once per month. Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

John Ford, Black Farmers Hemp, 102 Rue Felicite, Lafayette, LA 70507, (337) 781-7778, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 697.

Orlando McMeans, Southern University Agricultural Center, Ashford O. Williams Hall, 181 B.A. Little Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70807, (225) 771-4310, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 697.

Kimberly Hood, LDH, 628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 697.

Mike Vidrine, LDH, 628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 697.

Justin Gremillion, LDH, 628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 697.

Valery Fuller, 202 Duclos Street, Lafayette, LA 70506, (810) 919-0552, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 697.

Tony Landry, Louisiana Veterans for Medical Cannabis, 213 Case Lane, Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 412-2836, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 697.

Angela Broussard, 40225 Fenway Avenue, Prairieville, LA 70769, (225) 572-1235, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 697.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to provide that the licensed marijuana production facility or its contractor shall remit to the La. Department of Revenue the proceeds of the fee on gross sales of therapeutic marijuana established in present law. Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt

the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, Turner, and Magee voted yea.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report House Bill No. 697 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 697 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, Turner, and Magee voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 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 opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 698 by Representative Magee**

*Representative Turner in the chair.*

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 698, which provides for fees and charges to be assessed by the La. Department of Health in connection with regulation of marijuana for therapeutic use.

Valery Fuller, 202 Duclos Street, Lafayette, LA 70506, (810) 919-0552, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 698.

Tony Landry, Louisiana Veterans for Medical Cannabis, 213 Case Lane, Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 412-2836, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 698.

Angela Broussard, 40225 Fenway Avenue, Prairieville, LA 70769, (225) 572-1235, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 698.

Rachel Smith, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, 2525 Quail Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 698.

Representative Turner offered amendments to:

- (1) Delete all references to the La. Board of Pharmacy appearing in connection with testing of medical marijuana in proposed law and replace them with references to the La. Department of Health.

- (2) Restore present law providing for an annual fee of \$100,000 per license for production of medical marijuana (deleting proposed law decreasing the fee to \$50,000).
- (3) Delete proposed law providing for an annual license charge of \$50,000 to each contractor permitted to cultivate, extract, process, produce, and transport therapeutic marijuana.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Hughes, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Turner offered amendments to provide that the licensed marijuana production facility or its contractor shall remit to the La. Department of Revenue the proceeds of the fee on gross sales of therapeutic marijuana established in present law. Representative Turner offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Hughes, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Hughes offered a motion to report House Bill No. 698 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 698 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Hughes, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support and 3 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 135 by Representative Marino**

Representative Marino presented House Bill No. 135, which authorizes dispensing of medical marijuana to certain qualifying patients who are not Louisiana residents.

*Chairman Bagley in the chair.*

Valery Fuller, 202 Duclos Street, Lafayette, LA 70506, (810) 919-0552, spoke in support of House Bill No. 135.

Angela Broussard, 40225 Fenway Avenue, Prairieville, LA 70769, (225) 572-1235, spoke in support of House Bill No. 135.

Kevin Caldwell, Marijuana Policy Project, 2370 Champlain Street Northwest, Suite 12, Washington, DC 20009, (504) 914-1406, spoke in support of House Bill No. 135.



Tony Landry, Louisiana Veterans for Medical Cannabis, 213 Case Lane, Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 412-2836, spoke in support of House Bill No. 135.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 135 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 135 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 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. 768 by Representative Marino**

Representative Marino presented House Bill No. 768, which provides for the licensure of therapeutic marijuana pharmacies.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical and clarifying changes to the criteria provided in proposed law for applicants to whom the board may issue new marijuana pharmacy licenses after August 1, 2022.
- (2) Delete proposed law prohibiting marijuana pharmacy licensees from selling or transferring their licenses to certain parties and retain present law providing that marijuana pharmacy licenses are nontransferable.
- (3) Require the La. Board of Pharmacy to begin accepting applications for new marijuana pharmacy licenses on October 1, 2022.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Malcolm Broussard, Board of Pharmacy, 3388 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-6481, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 768.

Representative Dustin Miller offered an amendment in concept to ensure that at least 30% of the total number of licensees at any given time are held by women- or minority-owned businesses. After discussion, Representative Dustin Miller withdrew the amendment.

***Further action was taken by the committee on House Bill No. 768 at a later point in the meeting. Please check for the subsequent action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 768.***

**House Bill No. 650 by Representative Hilferty**

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 650, which provides for Medicaid coverage of prescription human milk.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to:

- (1) Change all references from "breast milk" to "human milk".
- (2) Require Medicaid to reimburse only for outpatient donor human milk obtained from a member bank of the Human Milk Banking Association of North America.
- (3) Make technical corrections.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Frankie Robertson, March of Dimes, P.O. Box 77084, Baton Rouge, LA 70879, (225) 247-7834, spoke in support of House Bill No. 650.

Amanda Dumas, Medicaid/Louisiana Department of Health, 628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke in support of House Bill No. 650.

Representative Echols offered a motion to report House Bill No. 650 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 650 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 13 in support and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 768 by Representative Marino**

***This is a continuation of the discussion on House Bill No. 768 from earlier in the meeting. Please check for the prior action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 768.***

Representative Marino presented House Bill No. 768, which provides for the licensure of therapeutic marijuana pharmacies.

Representative Dustin Miller offered amendments to provide that in issuing marijuana pharmacy licenses after August 1, 2022, the La. Board of Pharmacy shall ensure that at least 30% of the total number of such licenses issued are held by women- or minority-owned businesses. Representative Dustin Miller offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

John Ford, Black Farmers Hemp, 102 Rue Felicite, Lafayette, LA 70507, (337) 781-7778, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 768.

Valery Fuller, 202 Duclos Street, Lafayette, LA 70506, (810) 919-0552, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 768.

Tony Landry, Louisiana Veterans for Medical Cannabis, 213 Case Lane, Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 412-2836, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 768.

Angela Broussard, 40225 Fenway Avenue, Prairieville, LA 70769, (225) 572-1235, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 768.

Mathew Moreau, Louisiana Therapeutic Marijuana Pharmacy, 3610 Highway 19, Zachary, LA 70791, (225) 202-3319, spoke in support of House Bill No. 768.

Max Bonanno, Quarter Coast Consulting, 519 South Scott Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, (440) 915-1760, spoke in support of House Bill No. 768.

Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 768 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 768 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner 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.

**House Bill No. 588 by Representative LaCombe**

Representative LaCombe presented House Bill No. 588, which removes the termination provision applicable to the therapeutic use of marijuana law.

Danny Ford, Louisiana Association for Therapeutic Alternatives, 532 Spanish Town Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 247-4100, spoke in support of House Bill No. 588.

Tony Landry, Louisiana Veterans for Medical Cannabis, 213 Case Lane, Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 412-2836, spoke in support of House Bill No. 588.

Representative Selders offered a motion to report House Bill No. 588 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 588 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 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. 312 by Representative Dustin Miller**

Representative Dustin Miller presented House Bill No. 312, which enacts reforms to address workplace violence in healthcare settings.

Representative Dustin Miller offered amendments to:

- (1) Delete from proposed law all instances of the defined term "licensed healthcare facility" and replace the term with "regulated entity", defined as any licensed healthcare facility; a federally qualified health center as defined in present law; a pharmacy permitted in accordance with present law; and any healthcare provider's office at which patients are treated that is not otherwise licensed by the state but provides healthcare services delivered by a licensee of a healthcare professional licensing board created in present law.
- (2) Revise the definition of the term "workplace violence" for purposes of proposed law such that the term would mean violent acts, including battery or the intentional placing of another person in reasonable apprehension of sustaining battery, directed toward persons at work or on duty with their employment.

- (3) Delete proposed law requiring LDH to promulgate in rule the content requirements for workplace violence prevention plans.

Representative Dustin Miller offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

*Representative Turner in the chair.*

Ahnyel Burkes, Louisiana State Nurses Association, 2022 Heather Lane, Slidell, LA 70461, (504) 390-2237, spoke in support of House Bill No. 312.

Gene Sausse, 119 Estes Street, Metairie, LA 70001, (504) 723-8868, spoke in support of House Bill No. 312.

Jennifer McMahan, Louisiana Hospital Association, 9521 Brookline Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 928-0026, spoke in support of House Bill No. 312.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 312 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 312 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Hughes, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 11 in support and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 425 by Representative Bagley**

Representative Bagley presented House Bill No. 425, which provides relative to the number of marijuana pharmacies in the state.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 425 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 425 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 3 in opposition. 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 opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 827 by Representative Gadberry**

*Chairman Bagley in the chair.*

Representative Gadberry presented House Bill No. 827, which provides relative to screening of children for autism spectrum disorder.

Amber Harris, Autism Society of North Louisiana, P.O. Box 371, Calhoun, LA 71225, (318) 355-3144, spoke in support of House Bill No. 827.

Garrison St. Martin, Autism Society of North Louisiana, P.O. Box 371, Calhoun, LA 71225, (318) 355-3144, spoke in support of House Bill No. 827.

Stephen Wright, Louisiana Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics, 695 Kiskatom Lane, Mandeville, LA 70471, (318) 663-3810, spoke in support of House Bill No. 827.

Maria Bowen, Louisiana State Medical Society, 5555 Hilton Avenue, Suite 420, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 939-7576, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 827.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 827 favorably, to which Representative Bagley objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 827 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Adams, Crews, Emerson, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea. Representative Bagley voted nay.

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

**House Bill No. 505 by Representative Jefferson**

Representative Jefferson presented House Bill No. 505, which provides with respect to certified ambulance operators.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to delete all references in proposed law to renewal of ambulance operator certifications and provide that an ambulance operator certification shall expire one year after it is issued and shall not be renewable. Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Echols, Emerson, Hughes, Larvadain, McMahan, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Curry Landry, Louisiana Ambulance Alliance, 301 Main Street, Suite 600, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 663-2758, spoke in support of House Bill No. 505.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to provide that the term "certified ambulance operator" shall not include any individual employed by a fire department of any municipality, parish, or fire protection district or any volunteer firefighter of the state of Louisiana. Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Echols, Emerson, Hughes, Larvadain, McMahan, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report House Bill No. 505 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 505 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Echols, Emerson, Hughes, Larvadain, McMahan, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni 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. 520 by Representative Hughes**

Representative Hughes presented House Bill No. 520, which provides relative to emergency contraception for victims of sexual assault.

Representative Hughes offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Hughes offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Echols, Emerson, Hughes, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Morgan Lamandre, Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response, 5615 Corporate Boulevard, Suite 200, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 615-7093, spoke in support of House Bill No. 520.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 520 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 520 was reported by substitute by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Echols, Emerson, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 14 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 933 by Representative Stagni**

Representative Stagni presented House Bill No. 933, which provides relative to emergency preparedness among licensed nursing homes.

Representative Stagni offered amendments to:

- (1) Revise the procedures and schedules for creation of new emergency preparedness plans by licensed nursing homes; for review of such plans by local offices of emergency preparedness and other agencies; and for review and approval of such plans by LDH.
- (2) Delete proposed law exempting certain material from disclosure pursuant to present law relative to public records (R.S. 44:1 et seq.).
- (3) Stipulate that review and approval of nursing home emergency preparedness plans by LDH and other state and local agencies with which LDH consults regarding such plans shall be performed pursuant to the department's and those agencies' respective areas of knowledge, expertise, or jurisdiction.
- (4) Provide that implementation and execution of an emergency preparedness plan shall be the duty and responsibility of the nursing home.
- (5) Require LDH to implement a program for electronic submission of nursing home emergency preparedness plans no later than September 1, 2023.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Echols, Emerson, Hughes, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Steve Russo, LDH, 628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 933.

Kimberly Humbles, LDH, 628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 933.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 933 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 933 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Emerson, McMahan, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni 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.



#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Robert Owen offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Emerson, McMahan, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley  
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: