

## **House Committee on Health and Welfare**

Minutes of Meeting  
2022 Regular Session  
May 17, 2022

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

Representative Christopher Turner, vice chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:56 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Robby Carter  
Representative Raymond J. Crews  
Representative Michael Charles Echols  
Representative Jason Hughes  
Representative C. Travis Johnson  
Representative Ed Larvadain, III  
Representative Wayne McMahan  
Representative Thomas A. Pressly  
Representative Laurie Schlegel  
Representative Larry Selders  
Representative Joseph A. Stagni  
Representative Christopher Turner, vice chairman  
Representative Tanner D. Magee, ex officio

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman  
Representative Roy Daryl Adams  
Representative Kenny R. Cox  
Representative Dustin Miller  
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore  
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen

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

Meah Johnson, attorney  
Drew Murray, legislative analyst  
Felicie Jackson, executive assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms  
Braley Trabeau, committee clerk

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****Senate Bill No. 22 by Senator Boudreaux**

Representative Turner announced that action on Senate Bill No. 22, which extends the termination date of the Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council for three years, was voluntarily deferred.

**House Bill No. 673 by Representative Jordan**

Representative Jordan presented House Bill No. 673, which provides relative to the regulation of pharmacy benefit managers.

Representative Turner offered amendments to:

- (1) Add four additional members to the advisory council.
- (2) Establish an effectiveness provision.
- (3) Make technical changes.

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 Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Pressly, Selders, Stagni, Turner, and Magee voted yea.

Robert L. Reiger, Jr., Adams and Reese, LLP, 450 Laurel Street, Suite 1900, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 336-5200, spoke in support of House Bill No. 673.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 673 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 673 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Stagni, Turner, and Magee voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support and 1 for information only.

**Senate Bill No. 167 by Senator Talbot**

On behalf of Senator Talbot, Representative Stagni presented Senate Bill No. 167, which provides relative to emergency preparedness plans for nursing homes.

Representative Turner offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 167 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 167 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Stagni, Turner, and Magee voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support.

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 Concurrent Resolution No. 111 by Representative Stagni**

Representative Stagni presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 111, which requests the Louisiana Department of Health to examine options to improve reimbursement rates for residential substance abuse treatment facilities in the state.

Stephen Wright, Louisiana Addiction Treatment Providers, 695 Kiskatom Lane, Mandeville, LA 70471, (318) 663-3810, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 111.

Marolyn Mangham, Louisiana Association of Substance Abuse Counselors and Trainers, P.O. Box 80235, Baton Rouge, LA 70898, (225) 324-9527, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 111.

Heath Veuleman, Louisiana Addiction Treatment Providers, 695 Kiskatom Lane, Mandeville, LA 70471, (318) 663-3810, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 111.

Kit Gamble, Lincoln Nova Treatment, 4369 W-80, Ruston, LA 71270, (318) 663-3810, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 111.

Robert Rayford, Edgefield Recovery Center, 10236 Highway 71 South, Bunkie, LA 71322, (318) 748-2673, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 111.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 111 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 111 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

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

**Senate Bill No. 213 by Senator Luneau**

Senator Luneau presented Senate Bill No. 213, which provides relative to specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance program.

Katie Corkern, Rural Mental Health Alliance, P.O. Box 1048, Amite, LA 70488, (985) 474-0624, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 213.

Karen Stubbs, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 213.

Dan Thibodeaux, Mental Health Services, 4252 Hector Avenue, Gretna, LA 70056, (504) 338-5359, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 213.

Aubrey Wallace, MHR-Region 2, 2010 Cohen Street, Marrero, LA 70072, no phone number provided, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 213.

Courtney Sampson, MHR-Region 6, 208 South Lexington Avenue, Bunkie, LA 71322, (318) 305-5966, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 213.

Brenda Sampson, MHR-Region 6, 109 Chevy Lane, Suite C, Bunkie, LA 71322, (318) 346-6542, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 213.

LaShun Doyle, MHR-Region 2, 2100 Belle Chasse Highway, Gretna, LA 70053, (504) 913-5452, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 213.

Representative Selders offered amendments to add a degree in criminal justice to the list of minimum requirements for any individual rendering Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) services for a licensed and accredited provider agency and to make technical changes. Representative Selders offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 213 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 213 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 6 in opposition.

**Senate Bill No. 97 by Senator Boudreaux**

On behalf of Senator Boudreaux, Malcolm Broussard, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, 3388 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-6481, presented Senate Bill No. 97, which provides relative to pharmacist licensure by reciprocity.

Representative Turner offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 97 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 97 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

**Senate Bill No. 121 by Senator Bernard**

On behalf of Senator Bernard, Malcolm Broussard, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, 3388 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-6481, presented Senate Bill No. 121, which provides relative to the display of pharmacy permits.

Representative Turner offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 121 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 121 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

**Senate Bill No. 439 by Senator Peacock**

Senator Peacock presented Senate Bill No. 439, which provides for bridge year graduate physicians.

Lauren Bailey, Louisiana State Medical Society, 5555 Hilton Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 235-2865, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 439.

Representative Turner offered amendments to:

- (1) Amend title language and citations.
- (2) Delete all provisions proposing to enact law in the La. Insurance Code.
- (3) Amend a section heading.
- (4) Remove language on pages 5 through 8 and insert new provisions of proposed law.
- (5) Make technical changes.

Lester Johnson, Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, 630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, (318) 372-5392, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 439.

Representative Turner offered a motion to divide the amendments. Without objection, the motion to divide the amendments passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Turner offered a motion to adopt all of the amendments except those proposing to delete the La. Insurance Code provisions of proposed law. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Turner offered a motion to withdraw the amendments proposing to delete the La. Insurance Code provisions of proposed law. Without objection, the amendments were withdrawn by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Echols offered amendments in concept to limit the number of yearly extensions of a bridge year graduate physician's certification to provide that such a physician may receive no more than two such extensions. Representative Echols offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Turner offered amendments to make technical changes. 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 Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Turner offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 439 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 439 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support and 1 for information only.

**Senate Bill No. 298 by Senator Barrow**

Senator Barrow presented Senate Bill No. 298, which requires the Louisiana Department of Health to annually review medications, forms of treatment, and services for care of Medicaid enrollees with sickle cell disease.

Representative Hughes offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 298 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 298 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

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.

**Senate Bill No. 324 by Senator Carter**

On behalf of Senator Carter, Arthur Hickham, Louisiana State Board of Dentistry, P.O. Box 5256, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 219-7330, presented Senate Bill No. 324, which provides relative to qualifications for licensure by the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry.

Annette Roddy, Louisiana Dental Association, 5637 Bankers Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 926-1986, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 324.

Representative Turner offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 324 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 324 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support.

**Senate Bill No. 349 by Senator Carter**

On behalf of Senator Carter, Arthur Hickham, Louisiana State Board of Dentistry, P.O. Box 5256, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 219-7330, presented Senate Bill No. 349, which provides relative to the filling of a vacancy on the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 349 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 349 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

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

The committee stood at ease at 11:32 a.m. The committee reconvened at 11:32 a.m.

The secretary called the roll to establish a quorum.

**Senate Bill No. 342 by Senator Jackson**

Senator Jackson presented Senate Bill No. 342, which provides relative to the application of abortion statutes.

Representative Travis Johnson offered amendments to:

- (1) Restrict political subdivisions from authorizing or regulating abortion.
- (2) Add emergency contraceptives that contain a certain ingredient to the illustrative listing of contraceptive measures, drugs, and chemicals provided in proposed law.
- (3) Insert a statutory effectiveness provision.
- (4) Make technical changes.

Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Stagni offered amendments to:

- (1) Include that it shall not be unlawful for a physician to perform any of the acts described in present law if performed under circumstances in which the physician terminates a pregnancy for the express purpose of saving the life, preventing the permanent impairment of a life sustaining organ or organs, preventing a substantial risk of death of the mother or, in reasonable medical judgment, the unborn child has profound and irremediable congenital or chromosomal anomaly and cannot sustain life after birth.
- (2) Provide that such a diagnosis shall be a medical judgment certified by two qualified physicians and recorded in the woman's medical record.
- (3) Provide that the medical procedure shall be performed in a licensed ambulatory surgical center or hospital.



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 Robby Carter, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Marshall St. Amant, American College of Obstetrics & Gynecology, 402 12<sup>th</sup> Street Southwest, Washington, DC 20024, (202) 638-5577, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 342.

Ben Clapper, Louisiana Right to Life, 200 Allen Toussaint Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70124, (504) 835-6520, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 342.

Susan Raborn, 1323 Chippenham Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 978-1490, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 342.

Ellie Schilling, 909 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 680-6050, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 342.

Gwyneth O'Neill, 909 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 680-6050, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 342.

Melissa Flournoy, Louisiana Progress Action, 650 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 936-7200, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 342.

Bruce Reilly, 4930 Washington Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 758-9420, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 342.

Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 342 with amendments, to which Representative Hughes objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 342 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Stagni, and Turner voted yea. Representatives Hughes and Selders voted nay.

Witness cards received by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 14 in support and 29 in opposition.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 8 in support and 29 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

**Senate Bill No. 388 by Senator Hewitt**

Senator Hewitt presented Senate Bill No. 388, which prohibits the sale of certain abortion-inducing drugs without a prescription and provides for criminal penalties.

Representative Turner offered amendments to:

- (1) Provide that, for purposes of proposed law, the term "abortion-inducing drug" shall not include the sale, use, prescription, or administration of a contraceptive measure, drug, or chemical if it is administered prior to the time when a pregnancy could be determined through conventional medical testing and if the contraceptive measure is sold, used, prescribed, or administered in accordance with manufacturer instructions.
- (2) Provide that, for purposes of proposed law, the term "woman" means a pregnant female whether she is a minor or of the age of majority.
- (3) Revise proposed law in Title 40 of the La. Revised Statutes providing for the meaning of "abortion-inducing drug" and exclusions from that definition to make those provisions uniform with the corresponding provisions on abortion-inducing drugs in Title 14 of the La. Revised Statutes.
- (4) Make technical changes.

Representative Turner offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Turner offered amendments to:

- (1) Stipulate that any act by a licensed pharmacist or pharmacy related to filling a prescription for a drug, medicine, or other substance prescribed for a bona fide medical reason shall not subject the pharmacist or the pharmacy to the criminal consequences if a diagnosis or diagnosis code is written on the prescription by the prescriber indicating that the drug, medicine, or other substance is intended for a purpose other than to cause an abortion in violation of proposed law.
- (2) Require healthcare providers who are licensed to prescribe medications or drugs that are subject to the provisions of proposed law to write a diagnosis or diagnosis code on the prescription that clearly indicates that the prescription is not intended to cause an abortion in violation of proposed law.

Representative Turner offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Angie Thomas, Louisiana Right to Life, 200 Allen Toussaint Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70124, (504) 296-0323, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 388.

Sara Lever, 2132 Laurel Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, (443) 717-3641, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Melissa Flournoy, Louisiana Progress Action, 650 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 936-7200, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Nicole Freehold, 1382 Soldiers Street, New Orleans, LA 70122, New Orleans, LA 70122, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Ellie Schilling, 909 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 680-6050, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 388 with amendments, to which Representative Hughes objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 388 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea. Representatives Hughes and Larvadain voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 15 in support and 49 in opposition.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 7 in support and 32 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

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

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: