

House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
April 20, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Rick Edmonds, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Rick Edmonds, chairman
Representative Mary DuBuisson
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Bryan Fontenot
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Cedric B. Glover
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Scott McKnight
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative Joseph A. Stagni, vice chairman
Representative Matthew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Timothy P. Kerner

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tina Righteous, attorney
David Gauthier, analyst
Alexandra Cravins, committee administrative assistant
Valarie Banks, executive assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Hailey Austin, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 878 by Representative Horton

Representative Horton presented House Bill No. 878, which provides for hearing loss as an occupational disease while employed in the classified police service.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 878. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 878 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Lyons, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 49 by Representative Huval

Representative Huval presented House Bill No. 49, which authorizes the town of Henderson to levy a hotel occupancy tax.

Mayor Shirbin Collette, town of Henderson, 1007 Amy Street, Henderson, LA, (337) 319-0055, spoke in support of House Bill No. 49.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments to House Bill No. 49 that specified that the definition of "hotel" includes establishments consisting of two or more overnight camping facilities. Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Lyons, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 49 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 49 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 457 by Representative Carpenter

Representative Carpenter presented House Bill No. 457, which provides relative to contracts awarded to socially and economically disadvantaged businesses in the city of Baton Rouge and the parish of East Baton Rouge.

Eric Dexter, 574 Silverbill Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (318) 792-9963, spoke in support of House Bill No. 457.

Ken Naquin, Louisiana Associated General Contractors, 666 North Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 344-0432, spoke in support of House Bill No. 457.

Kris Goranson, City Parish of East Baton Rouge, 222 St. Louis Street, (225) 389-3259, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 457.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 457 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 457 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Green, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 889 by Representative Magee

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 889, which establishes the Dew Drop-America's Rock and Roll Museum within the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments to House Bill No. 889 that:

1. Provided that members serve four-year staggered terms rather than terms concurrent with the lieutenant governor.
2. Changed the relationship between the museum's board and the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.
3. Provided for an emergency effective date.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Green, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 889 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 895 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Vice Chairman Stagni in the chair.

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

House Bill No. 895 by Representative Magee

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 895, which creates the LaSalle Cultural Corridor District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 895 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 895 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 780 by Representative Magee

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 780, which provides relative to historic preservation and economic development in downtown Houma.

Representative Stagni offered amendments to House Bill No. 780 to make House Bill No. 780 effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action. 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 DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 780 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 780 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 732 by Representative Duplessis

Representative Duplessis presented House Bill No. 732, which provides relative to the Louis Armstrong Park Authority and Historic Jazz District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Willard offered amendments to House Bill No. 732 that:

1. Removed provisions that provided that the district was created for the purpose of acquiring ownership, leasing, or entering into a management agreement.
2. Removed authority granted to the district to fix the compensation of officers, agents, and employees.

Representative Willard offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Willard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 732 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 732 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 797 by Representative Duplessis

Representative Duplessis presented House Bill No. 797, which provides relative to the BioDistrict New Orleans in Orleans Parish.

Andy Kopplin, 919 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 813-6405, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 797. Mr. Kopplin provided a handout, "BioDistrict map of New Orleans", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Willard offered amendments to House Bill No. 797 that:

1. Changed the district's boundaries.
2. Provided for an emergency effective date.

Representative Willard offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 797 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 797 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 238 by Representative Orgeron

Representative Orgeron presented House Bill No. 238, which provides relative to the membership of the board of commissioners of Special Education District No. 1 of the parish of Lafourche.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 238 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 238 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 355 by Representative Charles Owen

Representative Charles Owen presented House Bill No. 355, which prohibits municipalities from enacting certain regulations relative to fuel retailers and transportation infrastructure.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 355 favorably. No vote was taken.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 355. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 355 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, and 5 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 713 by Representative Zeringue

Chairman Edmonds in the chair.

Representative Zeringue presented House Bill No. 713, which authorizes political subdivisions to create stormwater utility systems.

Brennan Black, Foley and Judell, L.L.P, 365 Canal Street, Suite 2600, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 568-1249, spoke in support of House Bill No. 713.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 713 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 713 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 375 by Representative Deshotel

Representative Deshotel presented House Bill No. 375, which provides relative to qualifications for the police chief of a village.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 375 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 375 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 155 by Representative Fisher

Representative Fisher presented House Bill No. 155, which provides relative to property adjudicated to the city of Monroe.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 155 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 155 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 348 by Representative Amedee

Representative Amedee presented House Bill No. 348, which provides relative to recreation districts in St. Mary Parish.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments to make receipt of per diem optional. Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Farnum offered a motion to report House Bill No. 348 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 348 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 563 by Representative Bacala

Representative Bacala presented House Bill No. 563, which provides relative to annexations in Ascension Parish.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 563 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 563 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 898 by Representative DeVillier

Representative DeVillier presented House Bill No. 898, which provides relative to the powers of parishes and municipalities with respect to liquefied petroleum gas.

Randy Hayden, Louisiana Propane Gas Association, 13144 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 763-8922, spoke in support of House Bill No. 898.

Karen White, Louisiana Municipal Association, 700 North 10th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 344-5001, spoke in support of House Bill No. 898.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 898 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 898 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 763 by Representative Travis Johnson

House Bill No. 763 provides relative to the office of police chief in the town of Ferriday.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 763. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 763 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Glover offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Rick Edmonds
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: