

House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
May 10, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan, chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, called the meeting to order at 9:29 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan, chairman
Representative Ryan Bourriaque, vice chairman
Representative R. Dewith Carrier
Representative Adrian Fisher
Representative Timothy P. Kerner
Representative Mandie Landry
Representative Scott McKnight
Representative Buddy Mincey, Jr.
Representative Joseph A. Orgeron
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative William "Bill" Wheat, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Rhonda Gaye Butler
Representative Mack Marcel Cormier
Representative Brett F. Geymann
Representative Neil Riser
Representative Troy D. Romero

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tyler Bosworth, legislative analyst
Robin Stalder, attorney
Brandy Phillips, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Concurrent Resolution No. 98 by Representative Zeringue**

Representative Zeringue presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 98, which urges and requests continued support for the efforts in the Mississippi River Basin to achieve the goals of the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan.

Mr. Doug Daigle, Louisiana Hypoxia Working Group, Room 1147 Energy, Coast, and Environment Building, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, (504) 258-7028, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 98.

Representative Wheat offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 98 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 98 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Bourriaque, Carrier, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 102 by Representative Robert Owen

Representative Robert Owen presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 102, which urges and requests that rules be codified defining the public's right to access the running waters of this state in accordance with the Louisiana's historical civil law tradition.

Mr. Emory Belton, Louisiana Sportsmen's Coalition, 7266 Tom Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 615-0212, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 102.

Mr. Richard Fischer, Louisiana Charter Boat Association, 4409 Meadowdale Street, Metairie, LA 70006, (504) 430-1237, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 102.

Mr. Lucas J. Ragusa, LASC, 41465 Pertuz Aures, no city or state provided, (504) 400-5420 spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 102.

Ms. Melinda Brown, Delacroix Corporation, 206 Decatur Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 595-6191, spoke in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution No. 102.

Mr. Mike Benge, Louisiana Landowner's Association, 206 Decatur Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 523-2245, spoke in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 102 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 102 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Carrier, Fisher, Kerner, Landry, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 424 by Senator Stine

On behalf of Senator Stine, Representative Coussan presented Senate Bill No. 424, which provides for boating safety instruction.

Mr. Jack Montoucet, secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70898, (225) 454-3317, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 424.

Mr. Timothy Fox, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70898, (225) 765-2984, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 424.

Mr. Cole Garrett, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70898, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 424.

Senator Stine arrived at the meeting, addressed questions from the committee, and offered closing comments.

Representative McKnight offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 424 favorably, to which Representative Wheat objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 424 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas, 2 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Carrier, Fisher, Kerner, Landry, McKnight, Mincey, and Orgeron voted yea. Representatives Schamerhorn and Wheat voted nay. Representative Coussan abstained.

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

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Mincey offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Carrier, Fisher, Kerner, Landry, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Jean-Paul P. Coussan
House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Date adopted: