

## **House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works**

Minutes of Meeting  
2022 Regular Session  
May 16, 2022

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

Representative Mark Wright, chairman of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Mark Wright, chairman  
Representative Kendrick "Ken" Brass, vice chairman  
Representative Mack Marcel Cormier  
Representative Kathy Edmonston  
Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment  
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg  
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry  
Representative Dodie Horton  
Representative Ed Larvadain, III  
Representative Charles Anthony Owen  
Representative Vincent J. Pierre  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Cedric B. Glover  
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore  
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen  
Representative Larry Selders

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

LeeAnne Sharlow, attorney  
Carlesia Bibbins, attorney  
Brandy Phillips, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

*Representative Brass in the chair.*

**Senate Bill No. 108 by Senator Ward**

Senator Ward presented Senate Bill No. 108, which provides relative to definition of utility terrain vehicles and recreational off-highway vehicles.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 108 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 108 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

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

**Senate Bill No. 271 by Senator Womack**

Senator Womack presented Senate Bill No. 271, which provides relative to bidding requirements on public works projects.

Mr. Derrell Cohoon, Capitol Partners, Louisiana Association of General Contractors, 714 North Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 921-9233, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 271.

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 271 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 271 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn 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.

**Senate Bill No. 429 by Senator Womack**

Senator Womack presented Senate Bill No. 429, which provides for substantial completion of public works.

Mr. Derrell Cohoon, Capitol Partners, Louisiana Association of General Contractors, 714 North Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 921-9233, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 429.

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 429 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 429 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

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

### **Senate Bill No. 436 by Senator Cloud**

Senator Cloud presented Senate Bill No. 436, which creates the "Louisiana Equine Promotion and Research Advisory Board" special prestige license plate.

Representative Brass offered amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Delete the provision that directs the department to collect an annual royalty fee and forward it to the commissioner of the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry to be distributed in accordance with present law to the La. Equine Promotion and Research Advisory Board.
3. Add a provision that directs the department to collect an annual royalty fee to be deposited into the La. Equine Promotion and Research Advisory Board Special Prestige License Plate Dedicated Fund Account.
4. Require the money received from the royalty fees be used to distribute grant funds as the La. Equine Promotion and Research Advisory Board so desires.
5. Create the La. Equine Promotion and Research Advisory Board Special Prestige License Plate Dedicated Fund Account as a special statutorily dedicated fund account within the state treasury.
6. Require the treasurer pay an amount equal to the annual royalty fee collected by the dept. into the account after compliance with the requirements of present law(Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Const. of La.) relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, and after a sufficient amount is allocated to pay all of the obligations secured by the full faith and credit of the state which become due and payable within any fiscal year.

7. Require all of the monies in the account be appropriated each year by the legislature to the La. Equine Promotion and Research Advisory Board for application first to pay principal and interest on any debt issued by the La. Equine Promotion and Research Advisory Board and second to pay any operating expenses of the La. Equine Promotion and Research Advisory Board.
8. Require monies deposited into the account be categorized as fees and self-generated revenue for the sole purpose of reporting related to the executive budget, supporting documents, and general appropriation bills and requires the monies be available for annual appropriation by the legislature.

Representative Brass offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 436 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 436 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn 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.

### **Senate Bill No. 423 by Senator Foil**

Senator Foil presented Senate Bill No. 423, which provides relative to public contracts, works, and improvements.

Representative Larvadain offered an amendment to:

1. Clarify a discretionary provision that a potential supplier may, but is not required to, submit a particular product for prior approval.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Cormier, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

Mr. Paul Rainwater, 5117 Cheneau Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 281-8176, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 423.

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 423 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 423 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Brass, Cormier, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 336 by Representative Goudeau**

Representative Goudeau presented House Bill No. 336, which creates the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge Commission and the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge Commission police.

Representative Brass offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 336. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 336 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, and Pierre voted yea.

The committee stood at ease. The committee reconvened.

### **Senate Bill No. 465 by Senator Connick**

On behalf of Senator Connick, Mr. Russell Caffery, Governor's Office of Coastal Activities, 1051 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 362-0220, presented Senate Bill No. 465, which provides for vacancies in the board of commissioners of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East and Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West.

Representative Pierre offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 465 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 465 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

### **House Resolution No. 104 by Representative Duplessis**

Representative Brass offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Resolution No. 104, which creates a task force to study and make recommendations on protective measures for improving the safety of ridesharing services. Without objection, action on House Resolution No. 104 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

### **House Resolution No. 105 by Representative Duplessis**

Representative Brass offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Resolution No. 105, which creates a task force to study and make policy recommendations relative to ridesharing options for persons with disabilities. Without objection, action on House Resolution No. 105 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

*Chairman Wright in the chair.*

**House Concurrent Resolution No. 107 by Representative Wright**

Representative Wright presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 107, which creates a joint subcommittee to study port infrastructure strategies.

Ms. Jennifer Marusak, Ports Association of Louisiana, P.O. Box 82880, Baton Rouge, LA 70884, (225) 572-1916, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 107.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 107 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 107 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wright, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

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

**House Bill No. 591 by Representative Wright**

Representative Wright presented House Bill No. 591, which removes certain regulatory measures placed on manufacturers.

Representative Horton offered concept amendments. Representative Horton offered a motion to adopt the proposed concept amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wright, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 591 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 591 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wright, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

**Senate Bill No. 435 by Senator Cortez**

Senator Cortez presented Senate Bill No. 435, which provides relative to the Louisiana Highway Regulatory Act.

Secretary Shawn Wilson, no witness card provided, spoke for information only.

Representative Pierre offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 435 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 435 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wright,

Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

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

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Edmonston offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wright, Brass, Cormier, Edmonston, Firment, Freiberg, Gadberry, Horton, Larvadain, Charles Owen, Pierre, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Mark Wright  
House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Date adopted: