

House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice

Minutes of Meeting
2024 Regular Session
April 24, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Debbie Villio, chair of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Debbie Villio, chair
Representative Roy Daryl Adams
Representative Tony Bacala
Representative Chad Michael Boyer
Representative Vincent E. Cox, III
Representative Bryan Fontenot
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Alonzo L. Knox
Representative Vanessa Caston LaFleur, vice chair
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Joy Walters
Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Lauren Ventrella

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Zachary Gonzalez, attorney
Stephanie Weinman, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms
Allie Eaves, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 129 by Representative Bayham

On behalf of the author, Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 129, which provides relative to the penalties for theft of a motor vehicle. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 129 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Horton, Knox, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

House Bill No. 733 by Representative Bayham

On behalf of the author, Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 733, which provides for the fixing of the amount of bail. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 733 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Horton, Knox, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

House Bill No. 805 by Representative Bryant

On behalf of the author, Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 805, which provides a justification defense to domestic violence victim-defendants. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 805 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Horton, Knox, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 161 by Senator Boudreaux

Senator Boudreaux presented Senate Bill No. 161, which provides for non-governmental agencies to receive background checks on contractors within the volunteer and employee criminal history system.

Captain Adam Albright, Louisiana State Police, 7919 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 161.

Representative Walters offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 161 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 161 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 34 by Senator Hensgens

Senator Hensgens presented Senate Bill No. 34, which provides relative to coordinated retail robbery offenses.

Major Willie Stewart, East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office, 13370 Brookcrest Dr., Walker, LA 70785, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 34.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 34 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 34 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Horton, Knox, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 8 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 33 by Senator Hensgens

Senator Hensgens presented Senate Bill No. 33, which provides relative to theft from a porch or other unenclosed portion of a residence or inhabited dwelling.

On behalf of the author, Representative Villio offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes; and
- (2) Relocate the proposed law penalty provision.

Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Knox, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Sarah Whittington, Justice and Accountability Center, 4035 Washington Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 33.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 33 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 33 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 183 by Senator Carter

Senator Carter presented Senate Bill No. 183, which provides relative to academic plans for children committed to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

On behalf of the author, Representative Villio offered an amendment to specify that the services included within the transitional plan shall be offered to the child. Representative Villio offered a

motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Cox, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 183 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 183 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 31 in support and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 387 by Senator Kleinpeter

Senator Kleinpeter presented Senate Bill No. 387, which creates the crime of vandalizing, tampering with, or destroying a crime camera system.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 387 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 387 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley 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.

The committee stood at ease at 10:08 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:12 a.m.

Senate Bill No. 6 by Senator Connick

Senator Connick presented Senate Bill No. 6, which creates the crime of unlawful dissemination or sale of images of another created by artificial intelligence.

On behalf of the author, Representative Villio offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes;
- (2) Clarify that proposed law shall not apply to an interactive computer science or a provider of a telecommunications service; and
- (3) Change the term "interactive service provider" to "interactive computer service".

Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 6 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 6 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 19 in support and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for Senate Bill No. 6 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

Senate Bill No. 7 by Senator Connick

Senator Connick presented Senate Bill No. 7, which provides for reporting of escapes from juvenile institutions.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 7 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 7 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for Senate Bill No. 6 pursuant to House Rule 14.33

Senate Bill No. 388 by Senator Hodges

Senator Hodges presented Senate Bill No. 388, which creates the crime of unlawful entry or reentry into the state of Louisiana by an alien.

On behalf of the author, Representative Villio offered amendments to:

- (1) Change the maximum term of imprisonment for a first violation of proposed law from one year to six months;
- (2) Change the maximum fine for a first violation of proposed law from \$4,000 to \$1,000; and
- (3) Change the minimum term of imprisonment for a second or subsequent violation of proposed law from six months to one year.

Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer,

Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Huey Fischer Garcia, Southern Poverty Law Center Action Fund, 201 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70170, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Adinas Perkins, 9930 Washington Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Ronald Marshall, Voice of the Experienced, 4430 Washington Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Maria Pabon, 408 Shrewsbury Ct., Jefferson, LA 70124, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Jonathon Savoy, 512 Cascio St., Lake Charles, LA 70601, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Brenda Murphy, 3144 Texas Ave., Kenner, LA 70065, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Arely Westley, Southeast Dignity Not Detention Coalition, 1610 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70117, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Daniel Cartellanor, 8928 W. Metairie Ave., Metairie, LA 70003, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 388.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 388 with amendments, to which Representative Walters objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 388 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, and Wiley voted yea. Representatives Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Walters voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support and 41 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for Senate Bill No. 388 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

Senate Bill No. 476 by Senator Owen

Senator Owen presented Senate Bill No. 476, which criminalizes the use of bait dogs in the training process for dog fighting.

On behalf of the author, Representative Villio offered an amendment to change the proposed law definition of "bait dog". Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment.

Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 476 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 476 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley 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.

Senate Bill No. 251 by Senator Barrow

Senator Barrow presented Senate Bill No. 251, which provides relative to educational programs provided by correctional facilities.

Natalie LaBorde, Department of Corrections, 504 Mayflower St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 251.

Adinas Perkins, Voice of the Experienced, 4930 Washington Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 251.

Ronald Marshall, Voice of the Experienced, 4930 Washington Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 251.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 251 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 251 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Knox, LaFleur, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 15 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 901 by Representative Mandie Landry

Representative Mandie Landry presented House Bill No. 901, which provides relative to the Crime Victims Services Bureau within the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

Francis Abbott, Louisiana Board of Pardons and Parole, Crime Victims Services Bureau, and Louisiana Victim Outreach Program, 504 Mayflower St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 901.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 901 favorably. Without objection,

House Bill No. 901 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Walters, and Wiley 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.

House Bill No. 578 by Representative Lyons

On behalf of Representative Lyons, Representative LaFleur presented House Bill No. 578, which creates the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program.

Devin Davis, Voters Organized to Educate, 4930 Washington Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in support of House Bill No. 578.

Nziki Wiltz, 5315 Wildair Dr., Apt. B, New Orleans, LA 70122, spoke in support of House Bill No. 578.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 578 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 578 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 91 by Representative Bacala

Representative Bacala presented House Bill No. 91, which provides relative to the crime of criminal trespass on running waters of the state.

Mike Benge, Delacroix Corporation, 206 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70130, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 91.

L. Amanda Phillips, Edward Wisner Donation Trust, 935 Gravier St., Ste. 825, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 91.

Michael Farizo, Delacroix Corporation, 16015 Hwy. 15, Braithwaite, LA70040, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 91.

Melinda Brown, Delacroix Corporation and Coastal Corporation, 206 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70130, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 91.

Don Caffery, Natural Resources Management Association, 822 Harding St., Ste. 307, Lafayette, LA

70503, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 91.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Bill No. 91 favorably, to which Representative Adams objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 3 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Bacala, Boyer, and Wiley voted yea. Representatives Villio, Adams, Cox, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Walters voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 15 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 91 pursuant to House Rule 14.33

House Bill No. 415 by Representative Fontenot

Representative Fontenot presented House Bill No. 415, which provides relative to the refusal to accept surrender of surety.

Representative Fontenot offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes; and
- (2) Specify that the provisions of proposed law shall not apply to any of the crimes listed in present law, Code of Criminal Procedure Article 321(C).

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 415 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 415 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley 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.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Debbie Villio
House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice