

## House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice

Minutes of Meeting  
2024 Regular Session  
April 30, 2024

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Debbie Villio, chair of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, called the meeting to order at 9:51 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 Lauren Ventrella  
Representative Joy Walters  
Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley

#### MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

#### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Zachary Gonzalez, attorney  
Stephanie Weinman, committee administrative assistant

#### ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms  
Michael McCain, clerk  
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

### III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

#### Senate Bill No. 276 by Senator Pressly

Senator Pressly presented Senate Bill No. 276, which creates the crime of coerced criminal abortion by means of fraud to prohibit a third-party from knowingly using an abortion-inducing drug to cause, or attempt to cause, an abortion on an unsuspecting pregnant mother without her knowledge or consent and amends various abortion criminal laws to add the crime of attempted abortion.

Catherine Pressly Herring, no address provided, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 276.

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

- (1) Make technical changes;
- (2) Add mifepristone and misoprostol to Schedule IV of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substance Law;
- (3) Provide an exception to the unlawful possession of a Schedule IV controlled dangerous substance for a pregnant woman who possesses mifepristone or misoprostol for her own consumption; and
- (4) Designate proposed law as "The Catherine and Josephine Herring Act".

Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Dr. Kim Hardy, 401 Edgehill Cir., Lafayette, LA 70508, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 276.

Dorinda Plaisance, Louisiana Right to Life, 125 Charleston Park, Metairie, LA 70005, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 276.

Richard Mahoney, 1831 Old Plantation Ln., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 276.

Ben Clapper, Louisiana Right to Life, 200 Allen Toussaint Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 276.

Ellie Schilling, 909 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 276.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 276 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 276 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Ventrella, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 31 in support, 11 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for Senate Bill No. 276 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

### **House Bill No. 408 by Representative Mandie Landry**

Representative Mandie Landry presented House Bill No. 408, which provides for the creation of the "Louisiana Voluntary Do Not Sell List".

On behalf of the author, Representative LaFleur offered an amendment to clarify that the request forms used by state police are to be in electronic format. Representative LaFleur offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Ventrella, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Katrina Brees, 8221 Zimpel St., New Orleans, LA 70118, spoke in support of House Bill No. 408.

Captain Adam Albright, Louisiana State Police, 7919 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 408.

Dan Zelenka, Louisiana Shooting Association, 11 Caroline Ct., Covington, LA 70433, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 408.

Everett C. Baudean, Louisiana Shooting Association, 704 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 408.

Representative Walters offered a motion to report House Bill No. 408 with amendments, to which Representative Horton objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Adams, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Walters voted yea. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Horton, Ventrella, and Wiley voted nay.

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

**House Bill No. 627 by Representative Mandie Landry**

Representative Mandie Landry presented House Bill No. 627, which provides relative to permitless concealed carry.

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

- (1) Specify that a person is prohibited from bringing a concealed handgun to a route of or within one hundred feet of a parade or demonstration for which a permit is issued by a governmental entity, exclusive of private property, rather than one thousand feet of a parade or demonstration; and
- (2) Provide exceptions for the following:
  - (a) A peace officer in the performance of his official duties; and
  - (b) A person with a valid concealed handgun permit issued pursuant to present law, so long as that person is within one hundred feet of the centerline of the route of a parade or demonstration.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, Ventrella, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Dan Zelenka, Louisiana Shooting Association, 11 Carolina Ct., Covington, LA 70433, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 627.

Kelby Seanor, Nation Rifle Association, 11250 Waples Mill Rd., Fairfax, VA 22030, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 627.

Chris Alexander, Louisiana Citizen Advocacy Group, P.O. Box 64952, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 627.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 627 with amendments, to which Representative Horton objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 627 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Adams, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Walters voted yea. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Horton, Ventrella, and Wiley voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 15 in support and 6 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**Senate Bill No. 17 by Senator Mizell**

On behalf of Senator Mizell, Representative Villio presented Senate Bill No. 17, which adds Tianeptine to Schedule I of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substance Law.

Representative Villio offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 17 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 17 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, Moore, Ventrella, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

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

**House Bill No. 630 by Representative Mandie Landry**

Representative Mandie Landry presented House Bill No. 630, which provides relative to criminal prosecution of certain pregnancy outcomes.

Ben Clapper, Louisiana Right to Life, 200 Allen Toussaint Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 630.

*Representative Fontenot in the chair.*

Richard Mahoney, 1831 Old Plantation Ln., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 630.

*Vice Chair LaFleur in the chair.*

Robert Voitier, Jr., 205 Rue De Frejus, Broussard, LA 70518, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 630.

Representative Walters offered a motion to report House Bill No. 630 favorably, to which Representative Horton objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas and 8 nays. Representatives Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Walters voted yea. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, and Wiley voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 27 in support and 28 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 630 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

*Chair Villio in the chair.*

**House Bill No. 164 by Representative Boyd**

Representative Boyd presented House Bill No. 164, which provides for exceptions to the abortion laws of this state relative to rape and incest.

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

- (1) Make technical changes; and
- (2) Specify that "abortion" is not the termination of a pregnancy that is the result of an act that constitutes any of the following offenses when the victim is under seventeen years of age:
  - (a) Rape;
  - (b) First degree rape;
  - (c) Second degree rape;
  - (d) Third degree rape;
  - (e) Molestation of a juvenile or a person with a physical or mental disability;
  - (f) Crime against nature; and
  - (7) Aggravated crime against nature.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Horton objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Walters voted yea. Representatives Villio, Bacala, Boyer, Fontenot, Horton, Ventrella, and Wiley voted nay.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 164. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 164 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, and Moore voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 34 in support and 43 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 164 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

***Further action was taken by the committee on House Bill No. 164 at a meeting held on May 7,***

***2024. Please check for the subsequent action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 164.***

The committee stood at ease at 12:34 p.m. The committee reconvened at 12:37 p.m.

**Senate Bill No. 306 by Senator Cathey**

Senator Cathey presented Senate Bill No. 306, which increases the penalty for human trafficking involving sexual activity of persons under the age of eighteen.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 306 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 306 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 31 in support and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for Senate Bill No. 306 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

**House Concurrent Resolution No. 79 by Representative Wilford Carter**

Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 79, which requests the Louisiana State Law Institute to study and provide recommendations relative to minimum and maximum sentencing ranges. Without objection, action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 79 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

**House Bill No. 56 by Representative Newell**

Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 56, which provides relative to exceptions to abortion. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 56 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

**House Bill No. 63 by Representative Newell**

Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 63, which amends definitions relative to the crime of abortion. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 63 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

**House Bill No. 293 by Representative Freeman**

Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 293, which provides for the definition of abortion. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 293 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Bacala, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

**IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Debbie Villio  
House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice