

House Committee on Commerce

Minutes of Meeting
2024 Regular Session
April 23, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel, chair of the House Committee on Commerce, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel, chair
Representative Delisha Boyd
Representative Kim Carver
Representative Vincent E. Cox, III
Representative Paula P. Davis
Representative Jessica Domangue
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Troy Jude Hebert
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Edmond Jordan
Representative Alonzo L. Knox
Representative Jacob Jules Gabriel Landry
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Dixon Wallace McMakin
Representative Shaun Raphael Mena
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Neil Riser
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Polly Thomas, vice chair

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Victoria Kelley, attorney
Kathryn Vigrass, legislative analyst
Sharell Steven, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarell, sergeant at arms
Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms
Randall Ike, clerk
Nevonda Reed, division director
Stephen Louis, sergeant at arms
Angela Mamou, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 948 by Representative Boyer**

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 948, which provides relative to historical horse racing. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 948 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, McMakin, Mena, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 99 by Senator Reese

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on Senate Bill No. 99, which provides relative to horse racing breeder awards. Without objection, action on Senate Bill No. 99 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

House Bill No. 131 by Representative Boyer

Representative Boyer presented House Bill No. 131, which provides for payment of horse racing purses.

Jake Delhomme, Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association (LTBA), 1459 Mills Hwy., Breaux Bridge, LA 70517, spoke in support of House Bill No. 131.

John Duvieilh, Louisiana Horseman's Benevolent and Protective Association (LHBPA), 340 Chinawood Dr., Abita Springs, LA 70420, spoke in support of House Bill No. 131.

Representative Deshotel offered amendments to change the breeder award's to apply to the first, second, and third place winners of such races. Representative Deshotel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 131 favorably. After discussion, Representative Thomas withdrew her motion to pass favorably. No vote was taken.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 131 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 131 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, and Thomas 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. 840 by Representative Boyer

Representative Boyer presented House Bill No. 840, which provides relative to the members of the Louisiana State Racing Commission.

John Duvieilh, LHBPA, 340 Chinawood Dr., Abita Springs, LA 70420, spoke in support of House Bill No. 840.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 840 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 840 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 932 by Representative Boyer

Representative Boyer presented House Bill No. 932, which provides relative to purse supplements.

John Duvieilh, LHBPA, 340 Chinawood Dr., Abita Springs, LA 70420, spoke in support of House Bill No. 932.

Benard Chatters, LHBPA, 2501 Luke St., Lake Charles, LA 70605, spoke in support of House Bill No. 932.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 932 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 932 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Mena, and Newell voted yea.

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

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4 by Senator Mizell

Senator Mizell presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4, which memorializes Congress to support the extension of funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) of 2021, which provides Louisiana residents access to broadband services.

Representative Deshotel offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative Deshotel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Mena, Newell, and Riser voted yea.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, McCormick, Mena, Newell, Riser, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 257 by Senator Foil

Senator Foil presented Senate Bill No. 257, which provides relative to board members and qualifications of the State Board of Examiners of Interior Designers.

TL Ritchie, Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Interior Designers (LSBID), 5112 N. Afton Pkwy, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 257.

Representative Riser offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 257 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 257 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Mena, Newell, Riser, and Thomas 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. 137 by Senator Miller

On behalf of Senator Miller, David Boneno, Louisiana Bankers Association, 5555 Bankers Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, presented Senate Bill No. 137, which provides relative to deposits for customers who expire while domiciled out of state.

Representative Deshotel offered amendments to:

- (1) Expand proposed law to include estate representative.
- (2) Expand proposed law to include court order.

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Mena, Newell, Riser, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 137 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 137 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Mena, Newell, Riser, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 332 by Senator Seabaugh

Senator Seabaugh presented Senate Bill No. 332, which repeals the Occupational Licensing Review Commission.

Emily Andrews, Governor's Office, 900 N. Third St., 4th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 332.

Representative McMakin offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 332 favorably. After further discussion, Representative McMakin withdrew his motion to report Senate Bill No. 332 favorably. No vote was taken.

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on Senate Bill No. 332. Without objection, action on Senate Bill No. 332 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, and Thomas voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 396 by Senator McMath

Senator McMath presented Senate Bill No. 396, which provides for exemptions to the licensing and registration requirements for architects.

Kathleen Gordon, American Institute of Architects of Louisiana, 521 America St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 396.

Blake Steiner, Baton Rouge Chief Building Official, 300 N. Tenth St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 396.

Michael Wich, South Central Planning, 5088 W. Main St., Houma, LA 70360, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 396.

Bryan Adams, State Fire Marshal, 8181 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 396.

Joe Delaune, State Fire Marshal, 8181 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 396. No witness card provided.

Steven Fontenot, Fontenot and Associates, LLC, 2025 Jackson St., Alexandria, LA 71301, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 396.

Ronny Haisty, RCH Company Engineering and Land Surveying, 236 St. Andrews Dr., Calhoun, LA 71225, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 396.

Representative Riser offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Provide that proposed law shall apply only to civil engineers that receive their license on or after July 1, 2025.

Barker Dirmann, American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana, 13583 Lakeway Dr., Prairieville, LA 70769, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 396.

Mary Claire Ruckert, Louisiana Engineering Society, 9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 396.

Representative Riser offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Davis objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 14 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Hilferty, McCormick, Riser, and Thomas voted yea. Representatives Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McMakin, Mena, Newell, and St. Blanc voted nay.

Representative Davis offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 396 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 396 was reported favorably by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 26 in support and 3 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Boyd offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Daryl Andrew Deshotel
House Committee on Commerce

Date adopted: