

House Committee on Commerce

Minutes of Meeting
2024 Regular Session
April 2, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel, chair of the House Committee on Commerce, called the meeting to order at 9:31 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:

Nevonda Reed, division director
Angela Mamou, sergeant at arms
Myrtis Jarell, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 620 by Representative Riser**

Representative Riser presented House Bill No. 620, which provides with respect to geoscientist license fees.

Brenda Macon, Louisiana Board of Professional Geoscientists (LBOPG), 9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 620.

Will Schramm, LBOPG, 9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 620.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to report House Bill No. 620 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 620 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Mena, Newell, Riser, and St. Blanc voted yea. Representative Deshotel abstained.

House Bill No. 679 by Representative Riser

Representative Riser presented House Bill No. 679, which provides relative to auctioneers.

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 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, and St. Blanc voted yea.

Lawrence Green, Henderson Auctions, 13340 Florida Blvd., Henderson, LA 70754, spoke in support of House Bill No. 679.

Representative Riser offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Remove definitions for soft and hard closing auctions.

- (3) Amend definition for internet-based platform.
- (4) Change exclusion in language from hard closing auction to wholesale vehicle auctions.
- (5) Change reference of incorporator to director.
- (6) Remove language on hard closing auctions.
- (7) Clarify that if an entity conducts an auction with vehicles, it does not need a valid dealer license if not required by the regulating agency.
- (8) Clarify that a copy of a dealer license is needed for conducting auctions with vehicles if license is required.
- (9) Change the deposit needed for the board from \$50,000 to \$25,000.
- (10) Reinstate repealed proposed law and amend it relative to a business owned by a nonresident auctioneer which receives its license through the reciprocity provision.
- (11) Change the amount a business owned by a nonresident auctioneer has to pay in bond from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

Representative Riser offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Riser offered a motion to report House Bill No. 679 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 679 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals but did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 3 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 753 by Representative Deshotel

Representative Thomas in the chair.

Representative Deshotel presented House Bill No. 753, which provides relative to licensure of plumbers.

Representative Riser offered amendments to:

- (1) Change engineer board member to mechanical engineer board member.
- (2) Change board appointee from one tradesman plumber appointed by the board to one residential plumber appointment by governor.
- (3) Add two board members of the public, one nominated by the speaker of the House of Representatives and one nominated by the president of the Senate.
- (4) Change board membership to eleven and quorum to six.
- (5) Make technical changes.

Representative Riser offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Ashley Tullier, State Plumbing Board of Louisiana (SPBLA), 11304 Cloverland Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 753.

Michael Joiner, SPBLA, 11304 Cloverland Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 753.

Crystal Carter, Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors of Louisiana, 620 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in support of House Bill No. 753.

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to report House Bill No. 753 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 753 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 239 by Representative Jordan

Representative Jordan presented House Bill No. 239, which allows certain financial institutions to act as fiscal agents, and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Jordan offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes
- (2) Allow federally insured depository institutions that are not stock-owned fiscal agency in the state.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Jonathan Reynolds, Carter Credit Union, 8955 Ellerbe Rd., Shreveport, LA 71106, spoke in support of House Bill No. 239.

Richard Williams Jr., Essential Credit Union, 2370 Towne Center Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in support of House Bill No. 239.

Anthony Ware II, Louisiana Credit Union League, 824 Elmwood Park Blvd., Harahan, LA 70123, spoke in support of House Bill No. 239.

Joe Gendron, Louisiana Bankers Association (LBA), 5555 Bankers Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 239.

David Boneno, LBA, 5555 Bankers Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 239.

Mike Waguespack, Louisiana Legislative Auditor, P.O. Box 94397, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 239.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to report House Bill No. 239 with amendments, to which Representative Riser objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 6 yeas and 11 nays. Representatives Boyd, Green, Jordan, Knox, Mena, and Newell voted yea. Representatives Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted nay.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 239. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 239 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 351 by Representative Romero

Representative Romero presented House Bill No. 351, which requires electric cars and hybrid vehicles be charged by solar or wind energy.

Representative Deshotel in the chair.

Jody Montelaro, Entergy, 446 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition of House Bill No. 351.

Brandon Frey, Louisiana Public Service Commission (LPSC), P.O. Box 91554, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 351.

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 351. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 351 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas 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. 623 by Representative Romero

Representative Romero presented House Bill No. 623, which provides relative to the membership of the State Licensing Board for Contractors.

Representative Deshotel offered amendments to:

- (1) Add that the House speaker's list of three nominees shall be La. Concrete Association members.
- (2) Add that the Senate president's list of three nominees shall be American Subcontractors Association of La. members.

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to report House Bill No. 623 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 623 was reported with amendments by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, 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: 8 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 366 by Representative Davis

Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 366, which provides relative to real estate.

Kim Callaway, Louisiana Realtors, 821 Main St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 366.

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to report House Bill No. 366 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 366 was reported favorably by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Green offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Daryl Andrew Deshotel
House Committee on Commerce

Date adopted: