

## **House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs**

Minutes of Meeting  
2024 First Extraordinary Session  
January 17, 2024

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

Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV, chair of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV, chair  
Representative Beth Anne Billings  
Representative Delisha Boyd  
Representative Josh Carlson  
Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.  
Representative Christopher Kim Carver  
Representative Les Farnum  
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry  
Representative Michael T. Johnson  
Representative Ed Larvadain, III  
Representative Rodney Lyons, vice chair  
Representative C. Denise Marcelle  
Representative Candace N. Newell  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative Polly Thomas  
Representative Mark Wright  
Representative John E. Wyble

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

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

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst  
Annie Smith, attorney  
Sarah Baker, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Bill No. 4 by Representative Marcelle**

Representative Marcelle presented House Bill No. 4, which provides relative to the assessment of penalties for failure to timely file required reports (Item #8).

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 4. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 4 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Carlson, Wilford Carter, Carver, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

**House Bill No. 5 by Representative Marcelle**

Representative Marcelle presented House Bill No. 5, which provides relative to the election districts for members of congress (Item #1).

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 5. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 5 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Carlson, Wilford Carter, Carver, Farnum, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

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

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 5 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

**House Bill No. 7 by Representative Melerine**

Representative Melerine presented House Bill No. 7, which provides relative to supreme court districts (Item #3).

Representative Beaulieu offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 7. Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Carlson, Wilford Carter, Carver, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 7. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 7 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Carlson, Wilford Carter, Carver, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 13 by Representative Melerine**

Representative Melerine presented House Bill No. 13, a constitutional amendment that increases the number of associate supreme court justices (Items #3 and #4).

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 13. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 13 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Carlson, Wilford Carter, Carver, Mike Johnson, Larvadain, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble 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.

#### **House Bill No. 14 by Representative Echols**

*Representative Thomas in the chair.*

Representative Echols presented House Bill No. 14, which provides relative to the election districts for members of congress (Item #1).

*Chair Beaulieu in the chair.*

The committee stood at ease at 10:45 a.m. The committee recessed at 10:56 a.m. The committee reconvened at 11:17 a.m.

Representative Wyble offered a motion to report House Bill No. 14 favorably, to which Representative Wilford Carter objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 14 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Carlson, Carver, Farnum, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, Schamerhorn, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea. Representatives Boyd, Wilford Carter, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, and Newell voted nay.

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

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Thomas offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Carlson, Wilford Carter, Carver, Farnum, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Chair Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV  
House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: