

House Select Committee on Homeland Security

Minutes of Meeting
2024-2025 Interim
September 26, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Jack "Jay" William Gallé, Jr., chair of the House Select Committee on Homeland Security, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Jack "Jay" William Gallé, Jr., chair
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Josh Carlson
Representative Raymond J. Crews
Representative Kathy Edmonston
Representative Peter F. Egan, Sr.
Representative Brett F. Geymann
Representative Timothy P. Kerner
Representative Alonzo L. Knox
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Charles Anthony Owen, vice chair
Representative Neil Riser
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver
Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel
Representative Adrian Fisher
Representative Larry Selders

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Natayveon Howard-Williams, committee administrative assistant
Sarah Baker, committee assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Jaubert Ambeau, III, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

Review of state government actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic as requested by House Resolution No. 133 of the 2024 Regular Session

Chair Gallé addressed provisions of the resolution.

Receive testimony from the following entities regarding the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic:

a. Louisiana Department of Health

Dr. Ralph Abraham, Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only and provided a summary of his testimony, which is included as Exhibit A in the committee records.

Dr. Wyche Coleman, LDH, 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only.

b. Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners

V.A. Culotta, Jr., M.D., Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME), 630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70122, spoke for information only and provided handouts labeled "Covid-Related Complaints 2022-2024", which is included as Exhibit B in the committee records and "Licensing Efforts During Covid Emergency", which is included as Exhibit C in the committee records.

Patricia H. Wilton, LSBME, 630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70122, spoke for information only.

c. Louisiana State Board of Nursing

Alicia Wheeler, Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN), 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke for information only.

Monique Calmes, LSBN, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, spoke for information only.

d. Louisiana Hospital Association

Greg Waddell, Louisiana Hospital Association, 9525 Brookline Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only.

e. Louisiana Nursing Home Association

Mark Berger, Louisiana Nursing Home Association, 7344 Office Park Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only.

Receive testimony from invited speakers regarding public health policies and strategies implemented in other states in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Carolina Bourque, 1313 Chemin Agreeable Road, Youngsville, LA 70592, spoke for information only.

Kathleen Willis, M.D., 42386 Forest View Place, Ponchatoula, LA 70454, spoke for information only and provided a handout regarding BLA 124742, which is included as Exhibit D in the committee records.

Holly Groh, M.D., 427 Exposition Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70118, spoke for information only.

Karl N. Hanson, M.D., 30 Mesa Street, Kenner, LA 70065, spoke for information only.

Meredith Grembowicz, M.D., 836 Sand Fox Run, Madisonville, LA 70447, spoke for information only and provided handouts labeled "FOIA 5.3.6 Cumulative Analysis of Post-authorization Adverse Event Reports: EXPLOSIVE List of 100s of known adverse events for the Pfizer CoV-2 Injections", which is included as Exhibit E in the committee records and "Testimony", which is included as Exhibit F in the committee records.

Robert Calhoun, M.D., 3803 Gouville Drive, Monroe, LA 71201, spoke for information only and provided a summary of his testimony, which is included as Exhibit G in the committee records.

Receive testimony from the public regarding state government actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Dr. Evelyn Griffin, 13920 Drawson Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, spoke for information only.

Dr. Joseph M. Griffin, 13820 Drawson Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, spoke for information only.

Angelia Desselle, 2917 Monica Lane, Marrero, LA 70072, spoke for information only and provided a handout labeled "COVID-19 Vaccine Consent Form", which is included as Exhibit H in the committee records.

Robert Fortier-Benson, M.D., 4900 Saint Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70447, spoke for information only.

Mary S. "Susie" Labry, on behalf of Brett Lewis, M.D., 40128B Emerald Drive, Ponchatoula, LA 70454, spoke for information only and provided a handout labeled "My COVID Story", which is included as Exhibit I in the committee records.

Kristen Smith, 5535 Horseshoe Road SE, Smithsdale, MS 39664, spoke for information only.

Glen-Michael Dusset, 4545 Charlene Drive, no city or state provided, spoke for information only.

Jill Hines, Health Freedom Louisiana, 3301 17th Street, Metairie, LA 70010, spoke for information only and provided a handout labeled "Organ bio-distribution study: post vaccination total lipid concentrations, mL", which is included as Exhibit J in the committee records.

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

Prepared statements were received via email for COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

Discuss next steps for the review requested by House Resolution No. 133 of the 2024 Regular Session

Chair Gallé stated that COVID-19 discussions will continue at future meetings.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Egan offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gallé, Amedée, Crews, Egan, Knox, McCormick, and Owen voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Jack "Jay" William Gallé, Jr.
House Select Committee on Homeland Security

Date adopted: