

House Committee on Judiciary

Minutes of Meeting
2024 Regular Session
May 9, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Robby Carter, chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary, called the meeting to order at 9:22 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Robby Carter, chairman
Representative Jacob Braud
Representative Chad Brown
Representative Kellee Hennessy Dickerson
Representative Kathy Edmonston, vice chairman
Representative Troy Jude Hebert
Representative Edmond Jordan
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Vanessa Caston LaFleur
Representative Mandie Landry
Representative Joseph A. Orgeron
Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley
Representative Jerome Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Emily Chenevert
Representative Jack "Jay" William Gallé, Jr.
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Jason Hughes
Representative Shane Mack
Representative Lauren Ventrella

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert A. Singletary, division director
Gabrielle Lewis, attorney
Megan Sanders, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Michael McCain, clerk
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 452 by Senator McMath**

Senator McMath presented Senate Bill No. 452, which provides relative to the coroner of St. Tammany Parish.

Mike Cooper, parish president, St. Tammany Parish, no address provided, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 452.

On behalf of Senator McMath, Representative Robby Carter offered an amendment to add expert fees and costs of investigations and audits to the funds retained by the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish for costs associated with the oversight of the coroner's office. Representative Robby Carter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Dickerson, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 452 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 452 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Dickerson, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 124 by Senator Mizell

Senator Mizell presented Senate Bill No. 124, which creates the Sexual Assault Survivor's Bill of Rights.

On behalf of Senator Mizell, Representative Robby Carter offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Add requirements relative to the examination treatment of all sexual assault survivors.

(3) Change the term "victims" to "survivors".

Representative Robby Carter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Dickerson, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

Morgan Lamandre, STAR, 5615 Corporate Blvd., Ste. 100, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 124.

Representative Dickerson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 124 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 124 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Dickerson, Edmonston, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for Senate Bill No. 124 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

House Bill No. 820 by Representative Walters

Representative Walters presented House Bill No. 820, which provides relative to the Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (P.O.S.T.).

On behalf of the author, Representative Robby Carter offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Robby Carter offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Dickerson, Edmonston, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

Charles Phipps, Urban League of Louisiana, 4640 South Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, spoke in support of House Bill No. 820.

Representative Hebert offered an amendment to clarify that the appointed community leader would have prior law enforcement experience or study within the law enforcement discipline from a university or law school. Representative Hebert offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Dickerson, Edmonston, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

Fabian Blache, Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police, 6767 Perkins Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 820.

Rebekah Taylor Hill, P.O.S.T., Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, 602 North 5th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 820.

Mike Ranatza, Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, 1175 Nicholson Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 820.

Representative LaFleur offered an amendment to remove the requirement for police departments in a municipality with a population over 150,000 to complete de-escalation training on a quarterly basis. Representative LaFleur offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Dickerson, Edmonston, Hebert, LaCombe, LaFleur, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to report House Bill No. 820 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 820 was reported by substitute by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Dickerson, Edmonston, Hebert, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

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

House Resolution No. 3 by Representative Zeringue

Representative Zeringue presented House Resolution No. 3, which provides for the continuation of the Judicial Structure Task Force as established by House Resolution No. 30 of the 2022 Regular Session.

On behalf of the author, Representative Robby Carter offered an amendment to remove the member of the Senate and the judge appointed by the president of the Senate from the composition of the task force. Representative Robby Carter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Brown, Dickerson, Edmonston, Hebert, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative LaFleur requested an amendment to include the National Bar Association as a member of the task force. After discussion, Representative LaFleur agreed to offer the amendment as a House floor amendment.

Representative Zeringue offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 3 with amendments. Without objection, House Resolution No. 3 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Edmonston, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, and Zeringue voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 951 by Representative Jordan

Representative Jordan offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 951, which provides for collection and reporting of data. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 951 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Braud, Brown, Edmonston, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Mandie Landry, Orgeron, and Zeringue voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Robby Carter
House Committee on Judiciary