

## **House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs**

Minutes of Meeting  
2024 Regular Session  
April 11, 2024

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

Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry, chair of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry, chair  
Representative Beth Anne Billings  
Representative Kim Carver  
Representative Vincent E. Cox, III  
Representative Jessica Domangue  
Representative Les Farnum  
Representative Bryan Fontenot  
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg, vice chair  
Representative Alonzo L. Knox  
Representative Rodney Lyons  
Representative C. Denise Marcelle  
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore  
Representative Candace N. Newell  
Representative Charles Anthony Owen  
Representative Joseph A. Stagni  
Representative Rashid Armand Young

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Michael Robert "Mike" Bayham, Jr.  
Representative Steven Jackson  
Representative Matthew Willard

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tina Righteous, attorney  
Blake Byrom, legislative analyst  
Natayveon Howard-Williams, committee administrative assistant  
Sarah Baker, committee assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms  
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

Representative Owen offered a motion to enact the 3-minute rule. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

**House Bill No. 634 by Representative Freiberg**

Representative Freiberg presented House Bill No. 634, which authorizes the governing authority of certain parishes to distribute sales and use tax revenue collected on the sale of admission tickets to certain events.

Brace Trey Godfrey, Baton Rouge Area Chamber, 564 Laurel Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in support of House Bill No. 634.

Representative Stagni offered amendments to increase the minimum parish population that makes proposed law applicable from 100,000 to 450,000 persons.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Owen, and Stagni voted yea.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 634 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 634 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, and Stagni 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.

**House Bill No. 390 by Representative Carrier**

Representative Carrier presented House Bill No. 390, which provides relative to compensation for members of the Allen Parish Libraries Board of Control.

Representative Farnum offered a motion to report House Bill No. 390 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 390 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

**House Bill No. 438 by Representative Carrier**

Representative Carrier presented House Bill No. 438, which provides relative to compensation of commissioners of ambulance service districts in Allen Parish.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 438 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 438 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

**House Bill No. 237 by Representative Newell**

Representative Newell presented House Bill No. 237, which provides relative to the Faubourg Marigny Security and Improvement District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 237 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 237 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

**House Bill No. 560 by Representative Hughes**

Representative Hughes presented House Bill No. 560, which provides relative to the New Orleans Regional Business Park.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 560 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 560 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

**House Bill No. 575 by Representative Hughes**

Representative Hughes presented House Bill No. 575, which provides relative to the membership of the Orleans Parish Communications District.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 575. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 575 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

**House Bill No. 643 by Representative Hughes**

Representative Hughes presented House Bill No. 643, which provides relative to the membership of the Housing Authority of New Orleans.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 643 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 643 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

**House Bill No. 270 by Representative Boyd**

Representative Boyd presented House Bill No. 270, which provides relative to the application and fee required by the Orleans Parish assessor for a tax exemption.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 270 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 270 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

**House Bill No. 413 by Representative Stagni**

Representative Stagni presented House Bill No. 413, which provides for the financial security of surviving spouses and dependent children of deceased firemen in certain circumstances.

Chad Major, Professional Firefighters of Louisiana, 8011 Merle Gustafson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 413.

Todd Albarado, Federal Firefighters, 105 Gardenia Court, Luling, LA 70070, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 413.

Representative Stagni offered amendments to:

1. Name the bill the "Fire Chief T.J. Maury Act".
2. Add a provision for retroactive application.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 413 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 413 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 398 by Representative Hilferty**

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 398, which provides relative to the authority of New Orleans City Park Police.

Rebecca Dietz, City Park, 1 Palm Drive, New Orleans, LA 70124, spoke in support for House Bill No. 398.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 398 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 398 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

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

#### **House Bill No. 565 by Representative Knox**

Representative Knox presented House Bill No. 565, which provides for building guidelines for preserving local authority and neighborhoods.

Kristin Sanders, office of cultural development, 1051 North Third Street, 4th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 565.

Representative Lyons offered amendments to limit the applicability of proposed law to landmarks and historic districts established pursuant to specified state or federal laws.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 565 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 565 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Owen, Stagni, and Young 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.

### **House Bill No. 563 by Representative Carpenter**

Representative Carpenter presented House Bill No. 563, which provides relative to the civil service status of employees of housing authorities.

Mary-Patricia Wray, Louisiana Housing Council, 711 North 6th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in support for House Bill No. 563.

Representative Marcelle offered amendments to add authority for housing authorities to continue to have their employees included in state civil service.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 563 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 563 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Knox, Lyons, Marcelle, Moore, Newell, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 353 by Representative Geymann**

On behalf of Representative Geymann, Representative Farnum presented House Bill No. 353, which authorizes golf carts to cross certain Louisiana highways within the city of Westlake.

Jacques Berry, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 353.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 353. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 353 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

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

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Billings offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Billings, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Knox, Lyons, Moore, Owen, Stagni, and Young voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Foy Bryan Gadberry  
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: