

House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Minutes of Meeting
2024 Regular Session
March 12, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Ryan Bourriaque, chairman of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Ryan Bourriaque, chairman
Representative Chad Michael Boyer
Representative Jacob Braud
Representative Tehmi Jahi Chassion
Representative Kellee Hennessy Dickerson
Representative Bryan Fontenot, vice chairman
Representative Steven Jackson
Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Tammy T. Phelps
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative Joy Walters
Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allison Williams, legislative analyst
Jennifer Winkler, legislative analyst
Darcas Deverteuil, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms

Ralph Palmer, sergeant at arms

III. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

Representative Ryan Bourriaque, chairman, introduced himself, the staff, and asked the committee members to introduce themselves and give a brief synopsis of the districts they serve. He also gave an overview of the committee protocol, purpose, jurisdiction, rules, and procedures.

Consideration and adoption of committee rules

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the Rules of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

IV. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 278 by Representative Romero

Representative Romero presented House Bill No. 278, which designates a certain portion of Louisiana Highway 383.

Representative C. Travis Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 278 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 278 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

House Bill No. 117 by Representative Green

On behalf of Representative Green, Representative Bourriaque presented House Bill No. 117, which creates the "Mystic Krewe of Femme Fatale" specialty license plate.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report House Bill No. 117 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 117 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 136 by Representative Jackson

Representative Jackson presented House Bill No. 136, which designates a portion of Highway 175 in Mansfield, Louisiana, in DeSoto Parish as the "Jerius Marshall Highway".

Representative Bourriaque offered amendments to:

- (1) Add a designation to name a portion of La. Hwy. 133 from 1-20 to Solon Bennett Rd. as the "Lake Letlow Memorial Highway".
- (2) Make technical changes.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 136 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 136 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

V. PRESENTATIONS**Louisiana Associated General Contractors**

Reldon Owens, La. Associated General Contractors, 666 North Street, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only. He gave a brief overview of the La. Associated General Contractors and the different roles that they have in relation to Transportation.

Union Pacific Railroads

Drew Tessier, Union Pacific Railroads, no address provided, spoke for information only. He gave a brief overview of the different types of railroads and the importance of the rail road systems.

DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION - CONTINUATION**House Bill No. 648 by Representative Zeringue**

Representative Zeringue presented House Bill No. 648, which designates the bridge on LA-648 over Bayou Lafourche as the "Austin Bush Memorial Bridge".

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 648 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 648 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

House Bill No. 432 by Representative Illg

Representative Illg presented House Bill No. 432, which creates the "LSU Baseball National Champions" specialty license plate.

Representative Wiley offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative Wiley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 432 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 432 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 641 by Representative Knox

Representative Knox presented House Bill No. 641, which creates the "Share the Road", "Support Our Wildlife Rehabilitators", "St. Thomas Aquinas", and "Evangel Christian Academy" specialty license plates.

Allene La Spina, Metro Bicycle Coalition dba Bike Easy, 2905 Pine Street, New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in support of House Bill No. 641.

Neal Morris, Bike Easy, 1035 St., Roch Avenue, Apt. 101, New Orleans, LA 70113, spoke in support of House Bill No. 641.

Representative Bourriaque offered amendments to:

- (1) Change the "Share the Road" specialty plate to the "3' for Cyclists" plate.
- (2) Add the "Icitte on parle français", "Bienvenue en Louisiane", "Lâche Pas", "Bayou Indian", "Bayou Cajun", "Je Chasse au Grand Chenier", "United States Submarine Veterans", "Leesville High School Alumni", and the "Humane Society of Louisiana" special prestige

license plates and provides for the creation, issuance, design, implementation, fees, distribution, and promulgation of rules applicable to these plates.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Walters, addressed a portion of House Bill No. 641 and shared a presentation on the "Evangel Christian Academy" specialty license plate.

Representative Braud, addressed a portion of House Bill No. 641 on the "Support Our Wildlife Rehabilitators" specialty license plate.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 641 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 641 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

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

PRESENTATIONS - CONTINUATION

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

Joe Donahue, DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only and introduced DOTD's executive staff.

Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services

Captain Bryan Lee, Louisiana State Police, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only.

Dan Casey, OMV, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only. He gave a brief update of the changes that OMV has already implemented and is planning to implement in the future.

Staci Forbes, OMV, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only. She gave a brief description of how OMV is working on changing the reinstatement process.

Lisa Freeman, La. Highway Safety Commission, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only. She gave a brief overview of the work of the safety commission, which is to reduce fatalities, roadway health, and how funding works in the commission.

Louisiana Motor Transport Association

Renee Amar, LMTA, 4838 Bennington Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke for information only. She gave a brief description about the trucking industry in Louisiana.

Louisiana Asphalt and Pavement Association

Erich Ponti, Louisiana Asphalt and Pavement Association, 666 North Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only.

Concrete and Aggregates Association of Louisiana

Michael Demouy, Louisiana Concrete Association, 18212 E. Petroleum Drive, Ste. 7, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only. He gave a brief overview of the association and informed the committee that the association rebranded from the Concrete and Aggregates Association of Louisiana to the Louisiana Concrete Association.

American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana

Barker Dirmann, American Council of Engineering Companies, 9643 Brookline Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only. He gave a brief overview about engineering firms and the engineering industry.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the 2023 Regular Session dated April 11, April 12, April 13, April 18, April 19, April 24, May 1, May 9, May 15, May 22, and May 30, 2023, were presented to the committee for approval. Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to adopt. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, C. Travis Johnson, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriague, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, C. Travis Johnson, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Ryan Bourriague
House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Date adopted: