

## **House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works**

Minutes of Meeting  
2024 Regular Session  
March 13, 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 9:15 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 Patricia "Pat" Moore  
Representative Tammy T. Phelps  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver  
Representative Joy Walters  
Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative C. Travis Johnson

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

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

#### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms

Donell Francois, sergeant at arms

### III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

#### **House Bill No. 490 by Representative Bayham**

Representative Bayham presented House Bill No. 490, which prohibits the imposition of penalties for speeding in a school zone if signage is not posted at the entrance and exit.

Representative Bourriague offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 490. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 490 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriague, Boyer, Braud, Jackson, Phelps, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

#### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 5 by Representative Bayham**

Representative Bayham presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 5, which directs the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to imprint "America 250" on license plates for private passenger motor vehicles.

Representative Bourriague offered amendments to:

- (1) Require the placement of the "America 250" logo on the plate instead of specifically on the bottom of the plate.
- (2) Remove language requiring the replacement of the words "Sportsman's Paradise" to allow those words to remain on the plate.

Representative Bourriague offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriague, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 5 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 5 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriague, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

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

**House Bill No. 146 by Representative Farnum**

Representative Farnum presented House Bill No. 146, which provides relative to board appointments for the Sabine River Authority.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 146 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 146 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

**House Bill No. 277 by Representative Kerner**

Representative Kerner presented House Bill No. 277, which prohibits smoking in an automobile when a minor is present.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 277 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 277 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

**House Bill No. 589 by Representative Galle**

Representative Galle presented House Bill No. 589, which prohibits a commercial learner's permit or driver's license if not cleared by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse.

Trella Ragas, Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 589.

Representative Bourriaque offered amendments to:

- (1) Change the date in present law from "January 6, 2025" to "November 18, 2024".
- (2) Change the reference in present law from all "applicants" to "applications" for the transfer, issuance, renewal, upgrade of a commercial's driver's licence.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Jill Jarreau, OMV, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 589.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 589 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 589 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

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

### **House Bill No. 542 by Representative Cox**

Representative Cox presented House Bill No. 542, which provides for increased penalties for certain traffic-control signal violations.

*Representative Fontenot in the Chair.*

Wanda Capdeville, 404 Porookmeade Drive, Gretna, LA 70056, spoke in support of House Bill No. 542.

Jim Hall, 800 N Causeway Boulevard Ste 100, Metairie, LA 7000, spoke in support of House Bill No. 542.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 542 favorably, with recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Criminal Justice. Without objection, House Bill No. 542 was reported favorably, with recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Criminal Justice by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

*Representative Bourriaque in the chair.*

### **House Bill No. 539 by Representative Boyer**

Representative Boyer presented House Bill No. 539, which provides relative to pedestrians walking on highways during certain periods of the day.

Representative Bourriaque offered an amendment to clarify that pedestrians are prohibited from walking on a highway that has a speed limit over 35 mph from sunrise to sunset, unless they are wearing protective clothing. Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Fontenot, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Boyer offered a motion to report House Bill No. 539 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 539 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Fontenot, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 317 by Representative Schamerhorn**

Representative Schamerhorn presented House Bill No. 317, which removes the helmet requirement for certain motorcycle operators.

Jessica Staton, LA Highway Safety Commission, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on House Bill No.317.

Representative Schamerhorn offered amendments to change the exception requirement for persons over 21 years of age from proof of a motorcycle endorsement on their insurance policy to proof of hospitalization on their insurance. Representative Schamerhorn 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, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Jacqueline Lindsey, ABATE of Louisiana, 1909 Ray Avenue, Bossier City, LA 7112, spoke in support of House Bill No. 317.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 317 with amendments, to which Representative Fontenot objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 317 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Jackson, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea. Representatives Fontenot, Moore, and Phelps voted nay.

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

### **House Bill No. 458 by Representative Fontenot**

Representative Fontenot presented House Bill No. 458, which provides relative to the regulation window tinting for patrol vehicles owned by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Representative Wiley offered a motion to report House Bill No. 458 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 458 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives

Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Tarver, 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.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Boyer offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: