

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

Minutes of Meeting  
2024 Regular Session  
March 20, 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 9:38 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 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 Steven Jackson  
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

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms  
Stephen Louis, sergeant at arms  
Quinn Williams, clerk

### **III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

#### **House Bill No. 430 by Representative Owen**

Representative Owen presented House Bill No. 430, which requires the office of motor vehicles to accept proof of vehicle insurance from another state.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 430 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 430 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, 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. 683 by Representative Owen**

Representative Owen presented House Bill No. 683, which requires the office of motor vehicles to process reinstatements in person at all field locations.

Dan Casey, OMV, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 683.

Representative Schamerhorn offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Change the definition of "delinquent debt" referring to past due date in present law from 60 days to 180 days or more past due.
- (3) Modify the definition of "final debt" in present law by removing "the amount due is no longer negotiable" and add that the debtor has no further right of administrative and judicial review regarding the amount.
- (4) Require a debtor to provide a valid electronic mail address to the office of motor vehicles to receive all notices and updates and it is the debtor's obligation to maintain a valid electronic mail address during the entire time of any installment agreement perfected pursuant to present law.

- (5) Require the debtor to promptly update the installment agreement system with any new or changes electronic mail address.
- (6) Modify the installment agreement payment schedule and gives the commissioner of the office of motor vehicles the discretion to take into account several factors that affect the debtor's ability to pay the outstanding debt when determining the number of payments and the amount of each payment in the debtor's installment agreement.
- (7) Clarify that after the debt becomes final but before it is transferred to the office of debt recovery, the office of motor vehicles, through the commissioner, may compromise and settle to avoid litigation and further collection expenses of the state by a satisfactory showing of substantial compliance with the law and determination no fee or lesser fee is due.
- (8) Clarify that sums due which are defined by present law, the office of motor vehicles has the option to refer any unpaid balance under the installment agreement to the Dept. of Revenue, office of debt recovery, for collection.
- (9) Remove a provision that specifies that if a debtor fail to timely make an installment payment and no request for reinstatement of the installment agreement was made following the commissioner's sending the Notice of Installment Agreement Termination and Demand, or the commissioner of the office of motor vehicles rejects a request to reinstate an installment agreement, the debtor's driving privileges and motor vehicle or truck registration privileges will be suspended.
- (10) Clarify that the failure to make a scheduled payment in accordance with the terms of the installment agreement will result in the assessment of a late fee in the amount of twenty-five dollars which will be added to the total amount due. Upon the failure to receive a payment, the office of motor vehicle is to send an electronic email notification to the debtor to address the matter by updating the debtor's payment information and paying the missed payment. If, after receiving the electronic email notice, the debtor updates the payment information, pays the late fee, and submits the missed payment, the installment agreement will remain in place and no further action will be taken. As such, the missed payment and the late fee must be received by the office of motor vehicles prior to the next scheduled payment date.
- (11) Create the Reinstatement Relief Program to be managed by the commissioner of the office of motor vehicles.

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, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Sarah Whittington, JAC, 4035 Washington Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in support of House Bill No. 683.

Peter Robins-Brown, Louisiana Progress Action, 650 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 683.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 683 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 683 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, 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. 681 by Representative Jordan**

Representative Jordan presented House Bill No. 681, which provides relative to the office of motor vehicles reinstatement fees for no insurance.

Representative Phelps offered amendments to:

- (1) Change the reinstatement fee from a varying amount depending on the length of the vehicle security lapse to a flat \$75 fee regardless of the length of the lapse in security.
- (2) Eliminate the limitation for the \$850 cap on reinstatement fees to only apply within 60 days of notice.
- (3) Provide a five-year time frame in which the \$850 cap is applicable.
- (4) Eliminate the 60-day window for the \$850 cap applicability to those under the age of 65.
- (5) Make technical changes.

Representative Phelps 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, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Dan Casey, OMV, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 683.

Sarah Whittington, JAC, 4035 Washington Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in support of House Bill No. 683.

Representative Walters offered a motion to report House Bill No. 681 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 681 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Fontenot, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, 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. 348 by Representative Horton**

Representative Horton presented House Bill No. 348, which authorizes drivers of certain two-wheeled vehicles to proceed through a red light under certain circumstances.

Jacqueline Lindsey, ABATE of Louisiana, 1909 Ray Avenue, Bossier City, LA 71112, spoke in support of House Bill No. 348.

Major Robert Burns, Louisiana State Police, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 348.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 348 favorably, to which Representative Phelps objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 348 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas, 2 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea. Representatives Moore and Phelps voted nay. Representative Bourriaque abstained.

### **House Bill No. 286 by Representative Braud**

Representative Braud presented House Bill No. 286, which provides an exemption from tolls located in a parish with a public-private partnership project, and presented a Power Point, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Braud offered amendments to clarify that the population designation is according to the latest federal decennial census. Representative Braud 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, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Joe Donahue, DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 286.

Representative Wiley offered a motion to report House Bill No. 286 with amendments with recommendation that it be recommitted to the House Committee on Appropriations, to which Representative Moore objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 286 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas, 1 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Wiley voted yea. Representative Moore voted nay. Representative Bourriague abstained.

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

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 286 pursuant to House Rule 14:33.

### **House Bill No. 378 by Representative Tarver**

Representative Tarver presented House Bill No. 378, which prohibits the operator of a toll facility from impacting a person's driver's license or renewal under certain circumstances.

Representative Bourriague offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 378. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 378 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriague, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, 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. 695 by Representative Fontenot**

Representative Fontenot presented House Bill No. 695, which creates an overweight permit to transport earthen material for government funded levee projects.

Representative Fontenot offered an amendment to:

- (1) Change the gross weight from 90,000 lbs, to 70,000 lbs. for which 22,000 lbs. for single axle and 48,000 lbs. for tridum group.
- (2) Clarify that nothing contained in proposed law will preempt municipal or parish ordinances from regulating weight limits on municipal or parish streets or roads.

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriague, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Wiley voted yea.

Joe Donahue, DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 695.

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 695 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 695 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Fontenot, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Wiley voted yea.

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

### **House Bill No. 698 by Representative Schamerhorn**

Representative Schamerhorn presented House Bill No. 698, which provides relative to the suspension, revocation, renewal, and cancellation of licenses.

*Representative Fontenot in the chair.*

Representative Schamerhorn offered amendments to:

- (1) Remove a provision that prohibited the issuance of an economic hardship license when a person's driving and motor vehicle privileges are suspended pursuant to the law.
- (2) Authorize the department to suspend privileges for person's issuing payment to the office of motor vehicles or a public license that is subject of a chargeback if the actual payment is not made within 30 days.
- (3) Make technical changes.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Wiley voted yea.

Dan Casey, OMV, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 683.

Jan Cassidy, Louisiana Public Tag Association, 17265 Rue Villa, Prairieville, LA 70769, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 698.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 698 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 698 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0

nays. Representatives Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, 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.

The committee stood at ease at 12:31 p.m. The committee reconvened at 12:33 p.m.

**House Bill No. 384 by Representative Knox**

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 384, which extends the grace period applicable to penalties for lapse of compulsory motor vehicle liability security. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 384 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Fontenot, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Wiley voted yea.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Tarver offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Wiley voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: