

House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Minutes of Meeting
2024 Regular Session
April 22, 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 Phillip Eric Tarver
Representative Joy Walters
Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms
Cheryl Domino, sergeant at arms
Ralph Palmer, sergeant at arms
Quinn Williams, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 169 by Senator Womack

Senator Womack presented Senate Bill No. 169, which provides relative to payments under contract by public entities.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 169 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 169 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Jackson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Wiley 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. 215 by Senator Fesi

Senator Fesi presented Senate Bill No. 215, which is relative to the development of vertiports.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 215 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 215 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Jackson, Moore, 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.

Senate Bill No. 389 by Senator Price

Senator Price presented Senate Bill No. 389, which changes the name of the Lafourche Basin Levee District.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 389 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 389 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives

Bourriaque, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Jackson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 98 by Senator McMath

Senator McMath presented Senate Bill No. 98, which prohibits use of a handheld wireless telecommunications device by a person when operating a motor vehicle upon any public roadway in this state.

Angela Nelson, AAA, 12901 N. 40 Drive, St. Louis, MO 63141, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 98.

Anthony Summers, 314 Courthouse Street, Port Allen, LA 70767, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 98.

Jacqueline Lindsey, A.B.A.T.E of Louisiana, 1909 Ray Avenue, Bossier City, LA 71112, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 98 and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Suzanne Salter, 12516 Patricia Avenue, Port Allen, LA 70767, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 98.

Mike Huval, P.O. Box 15746, Breaux Bridge, LA 70517, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 98.

Sarah Whittington, JAE, 4038 Washington Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 98.

Chris Alexander, Louisiana Citizen Advocacy Group, P.O. Box 64952, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 98.

Richard Brown, no address provided, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 98.

Dennis Burke, 6525 Gladys Street, Metairie, LA 70003, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 98.

Connie Zimmerman, 2453 Taffy Drive, Kenner, LA 70065, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 98.

Mary S. Susie Labry, no address provided, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 98.

Daniel Hayor, 405 Bengal Road, River Ridge, LA 70127, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 98.

Representative Walters offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 98 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 98 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 10 in support, 8 in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for Senate Bill No. 98 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

Senate Bill No. 199 by Senator Coussan

Senator Coussan presented Senate Bill No. 199, which provides relative to motor vehicle titles.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 199 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 199 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, Tarver, and Walters 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.

Senate Bill No. 379 by Senator Miguez

Senator Miguez presented Senate Bill No. 379, which provides relative to the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 379 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 379 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, 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 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 102 by Senator Miguez

Senator Miguez presented Senate Bill No. 102, which provides for policing of the Port of Delcambre, Twin Parish Port District.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 102 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 102 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.

Senate Bill No. 220 by Senator Kleinpeter

Senator Kleinpeter presented Senate Bill No. 220, which authorizes law enforcement to impound any vehicle used in a drag race, or other enumerated action or event, at the owner's expense, for thirty days to gather evidence pertaining to the crime.

Representative Bourriaque offered an amendment to:

- (1) Specify that only the driver of the vehicle is subject to higher fees and the total cost of impound fees if the vehicle driven in a manner that violates proposed law has been rented from a car agency.
- (2) Authorize a car rental agency to claim the impounded vehicle from the impound facility once notified by law enforcement.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 220 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 220 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 302 by Senator Cathey

Senator Cathey presented Senate Bill No. 302, which prohibits issuing traffic violation citations in certain circumstances.

Representative Bourriaque offered amendments to:

- (1) Add a requirement for jurisdictions that submit a local match waiver for capital outlay to disclose the amount of revenue collected from handheld traffic cameras and provide that failure to do so will subject the jurisdiction to its waiver being revoked.

- (2) Add a provision that prohibits local ordinances from superseding the provisions of this Act.
- (3) Make technical changes.

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

Paulette Bailey-Wilson, Louisiana Municipal Association, 10191 Patriot Drive, Baton Rouge, LA70816, spoke in opposition of Senate Bill No. 302.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 302 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 302 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, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley 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 House Bill No. 936 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

House Bill No. 935 by Representative Zeringue

Representative Zeringue presented House Bill No. 935, which provides relative to commercial motor vehicle inspections.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 935. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 935 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

House Bill No. 936 by Representative Zeringue

Representative Zeringue presented House Bill No. 936, which provides with respect to flood control.

Representative Bourriaque offered amendments to remove a provision in proposed law that would have provided an exception for integrated coastal protection projects included in the state's local master plan to the required compliance with ordinances, rules, regulations, including zoning and land regulations with respect to construction and maintenance of bridges and highways.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Bourriaque offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Clarify that state agency, and public and quasi-public agency of the state, must comply with substantive ordinances and rules with respect to construction and maintenance of bridges and highways.
- (3) Add a requirement that any violation of a local ordinance be timely raised and any enforcement proceeding be commenced prior to issuance of permits.
- (4) Specify that the failure to comply with timely raising violations relieves the state of responsibility.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Braud objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas, 2 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Walters voted yea. Representatives Braud and Wiley voted nay. Representative Bourriaque abstained.

Meg Bankston, Parish Presidents of Louisiana, no address provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 936.

Keith, Hinkley, Plaquemines Parish, no address provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 936.

Archie Chaisson, parish president, Lafourche Parish/ Parish Presidents of Louisiana, 402 Green Street, Thibodaux, LA 70301, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 936.

Representative C. Travis Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 936 with amendments, to which Representative Braud objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 936 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Chassion, Fontenot, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Walters voted yea. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Jackson, and Wiley voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared Statements were received via email for House Bill No. 936 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

Senate Bill No. 236 by Senator Foil

Representative Fontenot in the Chair.

Senator Foil presented Senate Bill No. 236, which establishes a driver's license designation and a special identification designation for a person with a seizure disorder.

Amanda Mitchell, Epilepsy Alliance LA, 1504 Pecan Street, Hammond, LA 70401, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 236.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 236 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 236 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Boyer, 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 in support and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 18 by Senator Hodges

On behalf of Senator Hodges, Representative Dickerson presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 18, which is to study the feasibility of widening a certain portion of Louisiana Highway 16 to four lanes.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 18 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 18 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, 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.

House Bill No. 685 by Representative Wright

Representative Bourriaque in the Chair.

Representative Wright presented House Bill No. 685, which provides relative to the creation of Louisiana Port Multimodal Council.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to reconsider the vote by which the substitute bill to House Bill No. 685 was adopted. Without objection, the motion to reconsider the vote passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to withdraw the previous substitute bill to House Bill No. 685. Without objection, the motion to reconsider the vote passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Bourriaque offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Chassion, Dickerson, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Charles Tilltson, Plaquemines Port, 8056 LA-23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037, spoke in support of House Bill No. 685.

Representative Jackson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 685 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 685 was reported by substitute by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Jackson, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 957 by Representative Jordan

Representative Jordan presented House Bill No. 957, which prohibits vehicle manufacturers and distributors from sharing driver information without the driver's consent and provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Jackson offered amendments to narrow the scope from manufacturers and other parties to "insurers or third parties" and from sharing data to "soliciting telematic data without consent of the driver". Representative Jackson 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, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Wiley voted yea.

Nick Steingart, Alliance for Automotive Innovation, 1080 N. Street, Suite 650, Washington, DC 20001, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 957.

Coulter McMahan, Louisiana Automobile Dealers Association, 660 Laurel Street, Suite E, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 957.

Renee Amar, LMTA, 325 Florida Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 957.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report House Bill No. 957 with amendments, to which Representative Boyer objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas, 7 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Chassion, Jackson, Moore, Phelps, and Walters voted yea. Representatives Boyer, Dickerson, Fontenot, C. Travis Johnson, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Wiley voted nay. Representative Bourriague abstained.

Witness cards submitted who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support and 6 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 957 pursuant to House Rule 14.33.

House Bill No. 923 by Representative Boyer

Representative Boyer presented House Bill No. 923, which provides relative to requirements for private training and driving instructor schools.

Representative Boyer offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Modify a provision in present law by changing the entity that a person who wants to provide driving course instructions must file a written application with from the deputy secretary to the commissioner.

Representative Boyer 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, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Chassion offered a motion to report House Bill No. 923 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 923 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriague, Boyer, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, C. Travis Johnson, Moore, Phelps, Schamerhorn, 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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: