

House Committee on Ways and Means

Minutes of Meeting
2024 Third Extraordinary Session
November 8, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Julie Emerson, chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Julie Emerson, chair
Representative Kendricks "Ken" Brass, vice chair
Representative Dennis Bamburg, Jr.
Representative Michael Robert "Mike" Bayham, Jr.
Representative Beth Anne Billings
Representative Marcus Anthony Bryant
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Jack "Jay" William Gallé, Jr.
Representative Chance Keith Henry
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Mandie Landry
Representative Wayne McMahan
Representative Brach Jerad Myers
Representative Joseph A. Orgeron
Representative Larry Selders
Representative Roger William Wilder, III
Representative Matthew Willard
Representative Rashid Armand Young
Representative Michael T. Johnson, ex officio

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Michael Charles Echols

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jacob Wilkinson, committee administrative assistant
Alison Pryor, senior attorney

Drew Murray, legislative analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms

III. INSTRUMENTS TO BE HEARD

Vice-Chair Brass in the chair.

House Bill No. 7 by Representative Emerson

Representative Emerson presented House Bill No. 7, a constitutional amendment which revises Article VII of the Constitution of La.

Secretary Richard Nelson, Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDR), 617 N. 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802 spoke for information only on House Bill No. 7.

Ms. Katherine Whitney, Teachers Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), 8401 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 7.

Ms. Shelley Johnson, TRSL, 8401 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 7.

Ms. Sadie Becnel, Louisiana Policy Institute for Children, P.O. Box 13552, New Orleans, LA 70185, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 7.

Mr. Daniel Erspamer, Pelican Institute for Public Policy, 342 Lafayette St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 7.

Dr. Keith Courville, Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana(APEL), 7907 Wrenwood Blvd., Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke in support of House Bill No. 7.

Mr. Jim Patterson, Louisiana Association of Business and Industry(LABI), 500 Main St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 7.

Dr. David Lindenfeld, Together Baton Rouge, 4759 Newcomb Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 7.

Representative Bryant offered a motion to report House Bill No. 7 with amendments, to which Representative Willard objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 7

was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Emerson, Brass, Bamburg, Bryant, Gallé, Henry, McMahan, Myers, Orgeron, Selders, Wilder, and Young voted yea. Representatives Mandie Landry and Willard voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, 2 for information only, and 1 designee of an elected official. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 2 by Representative Emerson

Representative Emerson presented House Bill No. 2 which provides for a flat rate for purposes of calculating corporate income tax and terminates certain corporate income tax exemptions, deductions, and credits.

Secretary Susan Bourgeois, Louisiana Department of Economic Development(LED), 617 N. 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke as the designee of an elected official on House Bill No. 2.

Secretary Richard Nelson, LDR, 617 N. 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802 spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Tommy Fauchaux, Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association(LMOGA), 730 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Brian Landry, Louisiana Chemical Association, 301 Main St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Ms. Jennifer Marusak, Ports Association of Louisiana, P.O. Box 82880, Baton Rouge, LA 70884, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Luke Morris, LDR, 617 N. 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802 spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Tom Leonhard, HRI Properties, 818 Gravier St., Suite 220, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Richard Roth, Roth Law Firm and Historic Tax Credit Coalition, 2727 Prytania St., Suite 14, New Orleans, LA 70130, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Brian Davis, Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation, 315 Charlie McCain Rd., West Monroe, LA 71292, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Jeff Glover, MGM Development Group, 307 Register St., West Monroe, LA 71291, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Joseph Dyke Nelson, self, 6482 LaSalle, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Jason Fritsche, Johnson Controls and Historic Tax Credit Coalition, 18247 Petroleum Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Robert Baumann, Hood Baumann, 616 Spanish Town Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Representative Brass offered a motion to recess. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Emerson, Brass, Bamburg, Bayham, Billings, Farnum, Henry, LaCombe, McMahan, Myers, Orgeron, and Young voted yea.

The committee recessed at 12:09 p.m. The committee reconvened at 1:09 p.m. The committee administrative assistant called the roll.

Mr. Barry Ivey, self, P.O. Box 78010, Baton Rouge, LA 70837, spoke in support of House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Jim Patterson, LABI, 500 Main St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Jan Moller, Invest in Louisiana, 619 Jefferson Hwy., Suite 1-D, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 2.

Representative Willard offered a motion to recess. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Emerson, Brass, Bamburg, Bayham, Bryant, Farnum, Henry, LaCombe, Mandie Landry, McMahan, Orgeron, Selders, Wilder, Willard, and Young voted yea.

The committee recessed at 1:31 p.m. The committee reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 12 in opposition, 1 for information only, and 1 designee of an elected official. 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 Henry offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Emerson, Brass, Bamburg, Bayham, Farnum, Henry, Mandie Landry, McMahan, Orgeron, Selders, Wilder, Willard, and Young voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Julie Emerson
House Committee on Ways and Means