

House Committee on Ways and Means

Minutes of Meeting
2024 Third Extraordinary Session
November 10, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Julie Emerson, chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means, called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.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 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
Representative Les Farnum

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jacob Wilkinson, committee administrative assistant
Alison Pryor, senior attorney

Drew Murray, legislative analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms

III. INSTRUMENTS TO BE HEARD

Vice-chair Brass in the chair.

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 Richard Nelson, Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDR), 617 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

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

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

Mr. Christopher Reade, Digital Media Alliance, 2831 St. Claude Ave., New Orleans, LA 70117, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2 and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Mr. Gerard Ramos, CEO, Revelry Labs LLC, 4200 Canal St. E., New Orleans, LA 70119, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 2.

Representative Henry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 2 favorably, to which Representative Willard objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 2 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Emerson, Brass, Bamburg, Bayham, Billings, Bryant, Gallé, Henry, LaCombe, McMahon, 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: 1 for information only and 1 designee of an elected official. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 11 by Representative Deshotel

Representative Deshotel presented House Bill No. 11, which provides for the homestead exemption, special assessment level, and other property tax exemptions for purposes of determining ad valorem taxation of certain property.

Representative Emerson offered amendments which: (1) require the tax collector in a parish electing to exempt business inventory from ad valorem tax to distribute the monies received from the state on a pro rata basis to each taxing authority that levies an ad valorem tax within the parish; (2) require the treasurer to disburse monies to the parish collector within 30 days of receiving certification from the Dept. of Revenue that the parish has elected to irrevocably exempt business inventory from ad valorem tax; (3) limit the maximum amount a parish may receive from the state for immediately implementing an exemption for business inventory to \$15M and limit the maximum amount a parish may receive for phasing-in an exemption for business inventory to \$10M; and (4) make technical changes. Representative Emerson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Emerson, Brass, Bamburg, Bayham, Billings, Bryant, Gallé, Henry, LaCombe, Mandie Landry, McMahan, Myers, Orgeron, Selders, Wilder, Willard, and Young voted yea.

Secretary Susan Bourgeois, LED, 617 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke as the designee of an elected official on House Bill No. 11.

Secretary Richard Nelson, LDR, 617 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 11.

Representative McMahan offered a motion to report House Bill No. 11 with amendments, to which Representative Willard objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 11 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Emerson, Brass, Bamburg, Bayham, Billings, Bryant, Gallé, Henry, LaCombe, 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: 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 Willard offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Emerson, Brass, Bamburg, Bayham, Billings, Bryant, Gallé, Henry, LaCombe, Mandie Landry, McMahan, Myers, Orgeron, Selders, Wilder, Willard, and Young voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Julie Emerson
House Committee on Ways and Means