House Committee on Judiciary

Minutes of Meeting 2025 Regular Session May 29, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Robby Carter, chair of the House Committee on Judiciary, called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Robby Carter, chair

Representative Jacob Braud

Representative Chad Brown

Representative Emily Chenevert

Representative Kellee Hennessy Dickerson

Representative Kathy Edmonston, vice chair

Representative Jack "Jay" William Gallé, Jr.

Representative Troy Jude Hebert

Representative Edmond Jordan

Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe

Representative Vanessa Caston LaFleur

Representative Mandie Landry

Representative Shane Mack

Representative Joseph A. Orgeron

Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley

Representative Jerome Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.

Representative Jason Hughes

Representative Lauren Ventrella

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Karen Winfrey, attorney

Paula Jones, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms Johoane' Connor, sergeant at arms Don-Trae' Davis, clerk Amelia Carman, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 192 by Senator Seabaugh

On behalf of Senator Seabaugh, Representative Melerine presented Senate Bill No. 192, which provides relative to law enforcement.

Kevin Cobb, executive director, Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, 1175 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 192.

Fabian Blache, executive director, Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police, 6767 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 192.

Rebekah Taylor Hill, Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 192.

Representative Chenevert offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 192 favorably, to which Representative Jordan objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 192 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Brown, Chenevert, Dickerson, Edmonston, Gallè, Hebert, LaCombe, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Robby Carter, Jordan, and LaFleur voted nay.

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 Concurrent Resolution No. 31 by Senator Cathey

Senator Cathey presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31, which requests the Supreme Court of Louisiana to require attorneys to complete a one-hour course on the legislative process as a part of the annual continuing legal education requirement.

Representative Edmonston offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31 favorably, to which Representative LaCombe objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 years and 8 nays. Representatives Chenevert, Dickerson,

Edmonston, and Orgeron voted yea. Representatives Brown, Gallè, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Wiley, and Zeringue voted nay.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31. Without objection, action on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Brown, Chenevert, Dickerson, Edmonston, Gallè, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 74 by Representative Robby Carter

Representative Robby Carter presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 74, which requests that the Louisiana Supreme Court develop rules that prohibit judges from attending campaign events for other elected officials.

Representative Robby Carter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 74. Without objection, action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 74 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Brown, Chenevert, Dickerson, Edmonston, Gallè, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 63 by Representative Marcelle

Representative Marcelle presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 63, which urges and requests the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to study the benefits of clarifying the data law enforcement officers must collect during certain traffic stops.

At the request of the author, Representative Zeringue offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 63. Without objection, action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 63 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Brown, Chenevert, Dickerson, Edmonston, Gallè, Hebert, LaCombe, LaFleur, Orgeron, and Zeringue 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 Concurrent Resolution No. 32 by Representative Boyd

Representative Boyd presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 32, which continues and reestablishes the Judicial Security Task Force as established by House Concurrent Resolution No. 40 of the 2024 Regular Session.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 32 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 32 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Brown, Chenevert, Dickerson, Edmonston, Gallè, Hebert, LaCombe, LaFleur, Orgeron, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 50 by Representative Zeringue

Representative Zeringue presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 50, which authorizes and directs the legislative auditor to study the efficiency, financial accountability, and effectiveness of the state Supreme Court, courts of appeals, and district courts.

Representative Zeringue offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical amendments.
- (2) Remove references to previously approved stipends, salary supplements, and reimbursement for certain expenses.
- (3) Remove provisions authorizing and directing the legislative auditor to investigate, examine, and audit monies, stipends, and expense reimbursements received by the judges.
- (4) Change the legislative auditor's reporting date from February 6, 2026, to April 1, 2026.

Representative Zeringue offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Brown, Chenevert, Dickerson, Edmonston, Gallè, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Zeringue offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 50 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 50 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Robby Carter, Brown, Chenevert, Dickerson, Edmonston, Gallè, Hebert, Jordan, LaCombe, LaFleur, Orgeron, Wiley, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Resolution No. 202 by Representative McMakin

Representative McMakin presented House Resolution No. 202, which directs the Louisiana Board of Ethics and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor to provide reports on justices of the peace.

On behalf of the author, Representative Zeringue offered amendments to:

(1) Change the statement to be reported by the board of ethics from the annual financial disclosure statement to the campaign finance report.

(2) Change the reporting requirement to require that the report compiled by the legislative auditor and the board of ethics be submitted to the speaker of the House of Representatives.

Constable James E. LeBlanc, president, Louisiana Justices of the Peace and Constables Association, 12487 Agnes Marie Road, Saint Amant, LA 70756, spoke as the designee of an elected official in opposition to House Resolution No. 202.

Representative Zeringue offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 202 with amendments, to which Representative Wiley objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Resolution No. 202 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Brown, Chenevert, Gallè, Hebert, LaCombe, Orgeron, and Zeringue voted yea. Representatives Dickerson, Edmonston, Jordan, LaFleur, and Wiley voted nay.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Resolution No. 202.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Robby Carter House Committee on Judiciary