

## **House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations**

Minutes of Meeting  
2025 Regular Session  
April 24, 2025

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Raymond J. Crews, chair of the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Raymond J. Crews, chair  
Representative Dennis Bamburg, Jr.  
Representative Tehmi Jahi Chassion  
Representative Michael Charles Echols  
Representative Brian Leonard Glorioso  
Representative Dodie Horton, vice chair  
Representative Ed Larvadain, III  
Representative Michael Melerine  
Representative Shaun Raphael Mena  
Representative Tammy T. Phelps  
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver  
Representative Roger William Wilder, III

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Joy Walters

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jurissa McGuire, attorney  
Faith Lillie, committee administrative assistant

#### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Nevonda Reed, division director  
Felicie Jackson, executive assistant  
Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms  
Johnae' Conner, sergeant at arms

Ralph Palmer, sergeant at arms  
Marcellus Veal, sergeant at arms

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

Representative Melerine offered a motion to adopt 3 minute rule, to which Representative Larvadain objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Crews, Bamburg, Echols, Melerine, Tarver, and Wilder voted yea. Representatives Larvadain and Mena voted nay.

#### **House Bill No. 153 by Representative Hebert**

Representative Hebert presented House Bill No. 153, which provides relative to work search requirements for unemployment benefits.

Tim Puglisi, Foundation for Government Accountability, 104 Pleasant St., Newburyport, MA 01950, spoke in support of House Bill No. 153.

Susana Schowen, Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC), 1001 N 23rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 153.

Robert Wooley, LWC, 1001 N 23rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 153.

Jacob Newsom, 1688 Tudor Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, 70815, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 153.  
6513 Perkins Road  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Jan Moller, Invest in Louisiana, 619 Jefferson Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 153.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 153 favorably, to which Representative Larvadain objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 153 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Crews, Bamburg, Glorioso, Horton, Melerine, Tarver, and Wilder voted yea. Representatives Chassion, Larvadain, Mena, and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 6 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 153.

**House Bill No. 280 by Representative Melerine**

Representative Melerine presented House Bill No. 280, which provides relative to the collection of workers' compensation premiums.

Representative Melerine offered a motion to report House Bill No. 280 favorably, to which Representative Phelps objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 280 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Crews, Bamburg, Chassion, Glorioso, Horton, Melerine, Tarver, and Wilder voted yea. Representatives Larvadain, Mena, and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support, and 3 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 280.

**House Bill No. 293 by Representative Melerine**

Representative Melerine presented House Bill No. 293, which provides relative to the resignation from labor organization dues or fees for teachers and other school employees and public employees.

Representative Crews offered a technical amendment. Representative Crews offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Bamburg, Chassion, Glorioso, Horton, Larvadain, Melerine, Mena, Phelps, Tarver, and Wilder voted yea.

Tia T. Mills, Louisiana Associations of Educators, 8332 One Calais Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 293.

Quintle Slaughter, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), 3888 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Bldg. 111, Ste. J2, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 293.

Peter Robins-Brown, Louisiana American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), 429 Government St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 293.

Matt Wood, AFL-CIO, 429 Government St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 293.

Carl McDaniel, Red River United-Caddo Federation Teachers, 11236 Ridgehaven Dr., Keithville, LA 71047, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 293.

Rodney C. Braxton, New Orleans Regional Transit Authority, 543 Spanish Town Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 293.

Larry J. Carter, Jr., Louisiana Federation of Teachers and School Employees, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 293.

Brant Osborn, St. Tammany Federation of Teachers and School Employees, 1842 8<sup>th</sup> St., Slidell, LA 70458, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 293.

Lee Barrios, Teachers and Teachers' Unions, 178 Abita Oaks Lp., Abita Springs, LA 70420, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 293.

Representative Echols offered amendments to:

- (1) Make title and technical changes; and
- (2) Require labor organizations and unions to cover administrative costs incurred from the collection of labor organization dues or fees or costs incurred from an employee opting out of the collection of such dues or fees.

Representative Echols offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Larvadain objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 6 yeas, 5 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Bamburg, Echols, Glorioso, Horton, Melerine, and Wilder voted yea. Representatives Chassion, Larvadain, Mena, Phelps, and Tarver voted nay. Representative Crews abstained.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 293 with amendments, to which Representative Phelps objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 293 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Crews, Bamburg, Echols, Glorioso, Horton, Melerine, Tarver, and Wilder voted yea. Representatives Chassion, Larvadain, Mena, and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support, 28 in opposition, 1 for information only, and 1 designee of an elected official. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 293.

### **House Bill No. 117 by Representative Echols**

Representative Echols presented House Bill No. 117, which provides for adoption of a medical fee reimbursement schedule for workers' compensation.

Representative Horton offered a technical amendment. Representative Horton offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bamburg, Chassion, Echols, Glorioso, Horton, Larvadain, Mena, Phelps, Tarver, and Wilder voted yeas.

Susana Schowen, LWC, 1001 N 23rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 117.

Brian Blackwood, LWC, 1001 N 23rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 117.

Alton Ashy, Advanced Strategies Inc., 218 Laurel St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 117.

Larry Verges, Medisource, 1207 N Causeway Blvd., Metairie, LA 70001, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 117 and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Cindy Bishop, Louisiana Ambulatory Surgery Center Association, P.O. Box 80053, Baton Rouge, LA 70898, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 117.

Joseph Jolissaint, 9191 Siegen Ln. #4B, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 117 and provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Jason Harbison, Louisiana Orthopaedic Association, 409 E Boston St., Covington, LA 70433, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 117.

Robin L. Krumholt, 6513 Perkins Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 117.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 117 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 117 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Bamburg, Chassion, Echols, Glorioso, Horton, Melerine, Mena, Tarver, and Wilder voted yeas.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 10 in support and 13 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 117.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

Representative Melerine offered a motion to approve the committee meeting minutes from the 2024 Regular Session dated March 28, April 11, April 18, April 25, May 1, and May 9. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Bamburg, Echols, Larvadain, Melerine, Mena, Tarver, and Wilder voted yea.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Melerine offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Crews, Bamburg, Chassion, Echols, Glorioso, Horton, Melerine, Mena, Tarver, and Wilder voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Raymond J. Crews  
House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations

Date adopted: