

House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice

Minutes of Meeting
2026 Regular Session
April 29, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Debbie Villio, chair of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Debbie Villio, chair
Representative Roy Daryl Adams
Representative Doyle Boudreaux
Representative Chad Michael Boyer
Representative Emily Chenevert
Representative Vincent E. Cox, III
Representative Bryan Fontenot
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Alonzo L. Knox
Representative Vanessa Caston LaFleur, vice chair
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Zachary Gonzalez, attorney
Dave Storment, attorney
Ross Richard, committee administrative assistant
Rashida Keith, division director

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Anna Kate Jackson, clerk
Amelia Carman, clerk
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 517 by Representative Wilford Carter

At the request of Representative Wilford Carter, Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 517, which provides for the right to a jury trial for certain juvenile offenders. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 517 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, Moore, and Wiley voted yeas.

Senate Bill No. 118 by Senator Boudreaux

Senator Boudreaux presented Senate Bill No. 118, which provides for substance use disorder screening of all misdemeanor DUI offenders.

Lisa Freeman, executive director, Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 118.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 118 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 118 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, Moore, and Wiley voted yeas.

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

Senate Bill No. 125 by Senator Boudreaux

Senator Boudreaux presented Senate Bill No. 125, which increases the compensation cap for the wrongful conviction compensation law.

Eric Sundstrom, Innocence Project, P.O. Box 92901, Baton Rouge, LA 70884, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 125.

Representative Moore offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 125 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 125 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, Moore, and Wiley voted yeas.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 294 by Senator Talbot

Senator Talbot presented Senate Bill No. 294, which provides relative to the allowable amount of promotional play offered by certain gaming operators and for deductions regarding promotional play.

Representative Adams offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 294 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 294 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 87 by Senator Mizell

Senator Mizell presented Senate Bill No. 87, which provides for a consistent definition of "commercial sexual activity".

Zachary Popovich, 22nd Judicial District Attorney's Office, no address provided, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 87.

Representative Chenevert offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 87 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 87 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

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

Representative Fontenot in the chair.

Senate Bill No. 93 by Senator Mizell

Senator Mizell presented Senate Bill No. 93, which establishes minimum bond amounts for certain offenses.

Chris Masters, ICAC Task Force, 1885 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, appeared at the witness table as a designee of Attorney General Liz Murrill for information only on Senate Bill No. 93.

Representative Villio offered amendments to:

- (1) Provide that readmittance to bail does not apply to a person released on a previously posted bail undertaking for an offense involving the possession or use of a firearm or any sex offense.
- (2) Require that a convicted person, in addition to the present law requirement of being remanded to jail to await sentence, be remanded to custody after sentencing.

- (3) Prohibit post conviction bail when there is proof of a substantial risk that the person may flee or poses an imminent danger to any other person or the community, including when the court finds the convicted person is likely to commit other crimes while on bail and therefore is a danger to the community.
- (4) Provide that the rebuttable presumption that the release of a convicted person will pose a danger to another person or the community and that there is a substantial risk that the person convicted might flee is applicable as follows:
 - (a) To a person convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for twenty-five years or more that is either a sex offense or crime of violence, rather than both a sex offense and a crime of violence.
 - (b) Based on the cumulative maximum sentences for all crimes for which a person was convicted, provided that any crime for which the person has been convicted is a sex offense or crime of violence.
 - (c) To any person who has been charged as a habitual offender.
- (5) Require the revocation of bail for a defendant who is admitted to bail for any crime of violence, any sex offense, or any crime involving the possession or use of a firearm upon any subsequent arrest for a felony offense that is not a part of the same transaction, occurrence, or criminal episode which resulted in the arrest that is the basis for the defendant's current admittance to bail.
- (6) Provide for duties of the arresting agency and of the court relative to revocation of a defendant's bail pursuant to proposed law.
- (7) Authorize the state or the defendant to seek supervisory review of the granting or denial of any order that revokes the defendant's prior admittance to bail.
- (8) Define the terms "crime of violence" and "sex offense".
- (9) Within the factors in fixing bail:
 - (a) Add consideration of sex offenses, relative to the seriousness of the offense charged.
 - (b) Add factors pertaining to the possession or use of a firearm or other dangerous weapon during the commission of the offense, the existence of available resources to impose enforceable conditions to ensure the defendant's appearance and protect the community, and the defendant's likelihood to continue to commit crimes resulting in harm to any person or the property of another if he is released on bail.

- (10) Authorize a written request for pending or adjudicated delinquent acts of a defendant and require the requested information be deposited by means of an email address provided in the written request addressed to the requesting court.
- (11) Remove provisions of present law relative to the reproduction of juvenile records as well as the seventy-two-hour time period to deposit these records.
- (12) Require the requesting court to issue a protective order concerning the use of the juvenile abstract for confidentiality purposes.
- (13) Add, as a condition of bail for a crime of violence, that the defendant, if equipped with a global positioning monitoring system, comply with the appropriate geographic restrictions, monitoring conditions, and enforcement provisions of present law (R.S. 15:571.36, 571.37, and 571.38).
- (14) Make technical changes.

Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 93 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 93 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, 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.

Chair Villio in the chair.

House Bill No. 333 by Representative Jordan

Representative Jordan presented House Bill No. 333, which provides relative to the housing of inmates committed to the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

Zachary T. Daniels, executive director, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, 2525 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 333.

Jonathan Vining, executive counsel, Department of Public Safety and Corrections, 504 Mayflower Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 333.

Kevin Cobb, executive director, Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, 1175 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 333.

There was no motion offered on House Bill No. 333 and no vote was taken.

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

Senate Bill No. 98 by Senator Kleinpeter

Senator Kleinpeter presented Senate Bill No. 98, which adds certain school employees to the definition of "educator" relative to prohibited sexual conduct between an educator and student.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 98 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 98 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yeas.

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

House Bill No. 828 by Representative Jordan

Representative Jordan presented House Bill No. 828, which provides relative to the Louisiana Correctional Medical Review Board.

Zachary T. Daniels, executive director, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, 2525 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 828.

Jonathan Vining, executive counsel, Department of Public Safety and Corrections, 504 Mayflower Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 828.

Kevin Cobb, executive director, Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, 1175 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 828.

At the request of Representative Jordan, Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 828. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 828 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yeas.

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

House Bill No. 146 by Representative Schamerhorn

Representative Schamerhorn presented House Bill No. 146, which authorizes an election to allow sports wagering in Sabine Parish.

There was no motion offered on House Bill No. 146 and no vote was taken.

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

Senate Bill No. 306 by Senator Edmonds

Senator Edmonds presented Senate Bill No. 306, which creates the crime of obstruction of the freedom of worship in a church or other place of worship.

Representative Villio offered an amendment to change the maximum fine for a first offense violation of proposed law from \$10,000 to \$2,500. Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Knox, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Gene Mills, Louisiana Family Forum, 655 St. Ferdinand Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 306.

Dr. Will Hall, Louisiana Baptist Office of Public Policy, 1250 MacArthur Drive, Alexandria, LA 71309, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 306.

Sarah Whittington, ACLU, P.O. Box 56157, New Orleans, LA 70156, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 306.

Zachary T. Daniels, executive director, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, 2525 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 306.

Representative Wiley offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 306 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 306 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, 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. 277 by Senator Edmonds

Senator Edmonds presented Senate Bill No. 277, which provides for certain state officials to carry a concealed weapon.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 277 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 277 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 199 by Senator Seabaugh

Senator Seabaugh presented Senate Bill No. 199, which imposes mandatory minimum sentences for a second offense of purchasing commercial sexual activity and second and subsequent offenses of soliciting for prostitutes.

On behalf of Senator Seabaugh, Representative Villio offered amendments to add a cross -reference to present law (R.S. 15:541(24)(a)) relative to sex offender registration for a violation of present law (R.S. 14:82.2(C)(2)) and to make technical changes. Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, and Moore voted yea.

Representative Chenevert offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 199 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 199 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Adams, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

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

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Debbie Villio
House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice