

House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice

Minutes of Meeting
2026 Regular Session
May 6, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Debbie Villio, chair of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Debbie Villio, chair
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:

Representative Roy Daryl Adams

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Amelia Carman, clerk
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 396 by Senator Cloud

Senator Cloud presented Senate Bill No. 396, which provides that children in custody of the office of juvenile justice may attend review hearings via secure video conference.

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

- (1) Restore present law relative to the physical transportation of a child to the committing court for an in-person review hearing not more than six months after the child's commitment.
- (2) Require the staff of the office of juvenile justice and contract staff to participate in each review hearing in the same manner as the child who is required to participate in the review hearing.

Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Jason Starnes, office of juvenile justice, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 396.

Representative Villio offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 396 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 396 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, 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. 181 by Senator Foil

Senator Foil presented Senate Bill No. 181, which provides an exemption for nonprofit healthcare organizations to hold and operate a license for conducting certain raffles.

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

- (1) Authorize nonprofit healthcare organizations that are part of a single health system to obtain and operate a single state charitable gaming license if each participating entity is otherwise eligible for a license.

- (2) Provide that a nonprofit healthcare organization is eligible for a limited raffle license.

Catherine Logan, Louisiana Department of Revenue, office of charitable gaming, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, appeared at the witness table for information only on Senate Bill No. 181.

Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Ryan Cross, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady, 4200 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, appeared at the witness table in support of Senate Bill No. 181.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 181 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 181 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 81 by Senator Morris

On behalf of Senator Morris, Zachary T. Daniels, executive director, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, 2525 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, presented Senate Bill No. 81, which provides relative to waiver of a trial by jury in a noncapital felony case.

Meghan Garvey, Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, P.O. Box 83, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 81.

Bruce Reilly, Voice of the Experienced, 4930 Washington Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 81.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 81 favorably, to which Representative LaFleur objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 81 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, and Wiley voted yea. Representatives Knox, LaFleur, and Moore voted nay.

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

House Bill No. 769 by Representative Boyd

Representative Boyd presented House Bill No. 769, which provides relative to the removal authority process with respect to domestic offenders.

On behalf of the author, Representative LaFleur offered amendments to provide that the forty-eight to seventy-two hour period in proposed law runs concurrently with the seventy-two hour maximum period in present law (Code of Criminal Procedure Article 230.1) for appearance before a judge for the purpose of appointment of counsel. Representative LaFleur offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Meghan Garvey, Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, P.O. Box 83, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 769.

Representative Wiley offered a motion to report House Bill No. 769 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 769 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 207 by Senator Miguez

Senator Miguez presented Senate Bill No. 207, which provides a ten year time limitation on prosecution of certain crimes committed by elected officials and public employees.

Representative Boyer offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 207 favorably, to which Representative LaFleur objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 207 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, and Wiley voted yea. Representatives Knox, LaFleur, and Moore voted nay.

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

Senate Bill No. 92 by Senator Mizell

Senator Mizell presented Senate Bill No. 92, which requires district attorneys to submit sexual assault collection kits to the statewide tracking system.

Chad Guidry, captain, Louisiana State Police Crime Lab, 376 East Airport Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, appeared at the witness table for information only on Senate Bill No. 92.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 92 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 92 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Chenevert, Cox, Horton, 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.

Senate Bill No. 156 by Senator Kleinpeter

Senator Kleinpeter presented Senate Bill No. 156, which increases the maximum period of imprisonment for negligent homicide.

Larry Frieman, chief deputy attorney general, 1885 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke as the designee of an elected official in support of Senate Bill No. 156.

Natalie LaBorde, assistant chief deputy attorney general, 1885 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke as the designee of an elected official in support of Senate Bill No. 156.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 156 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 156 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, 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. 58 by Senator Kleinpeter

Senator Kleinpeter presented Senate Bill No. 58, which imposes a mandatory minimum sentence for aggravated flight from a law enforcement officer.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 58 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 58 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 97 by Senator Morris

Senator Morris presented Senate Bill No. 97, a constitutional amendment to require the prosecutor's consent for a defendant to waive his right to a trial by jury.

Sarah Whittington, American Civil Liberties Union, P.O. Box 56157, New Orleans, LA 70156, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 97.

Bruce Reilly, Voice of the Experienced, 4930 Washington Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70156, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 97.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 97 favorably, to which Representative LaFleur objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 97 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, and Wiley voted yea. Representatives Knox, LaFleur, and Moore voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support and 8 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 141 by Senator Morris

Senator Morris presented Senate Bill No. 141, which provides that activities of the Integrated Criminal Justice Information System Policy Board be performed by the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Representative Villio offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 141 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 141 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, 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.

Senate Bill No. 410 by Senator Morris

Senator Morris presented Senate Bill No. 410, which provides enhanced penalties for accessories after the fact to sex offenses.

Representative Villio offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 410 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 410 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, 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.

House Bill No. 251 by Representative Mandie Landry

Representative Mandie Landry presented House Bill No. 251, which provides with respect to criminal resentencing.

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

- (1) Provide that motions granted without compliance with proposed law are voidable as patent error pursuant to present law (Code of Criminal Procedure Article 920(2)).
- (2) Provide that proposed law does not create or permit individual standing to intervene in a criminal proceeding.

Larry Frieman, chief deputy attorney general, 1885 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke as the designee of an elected official in support of House Bill No. 251.

Natalie LaBorde, assistant chief deputy attorney general, 1885 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, appeared at the witness table as the designee of an elected official in support of House Bill No. 251.

Representative Villio offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Meghan Garvey, Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, P.O. Box 83, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 251.

Sarah Whittington, American Civil Liberties Union, P.O. Box 56157, New Orleans, LA 70156, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 251.

Representative Boudreaux offered a motion to report House Bill No. 251 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 251 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, and Moore 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.

House Bill No. 404 by Representative Chassion

At the request of the author, Representative Villio offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 404, which provides for medication-assisted treatment for substance abuse in jails and prisons. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 404 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 50 by Representative Chassion

Representative Chassion presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 50, which requests certain state and governmental entities to report on opioid abatement and treatment programs in correctional facilities, and to clarify guidance regarding available funding for such programs.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 50 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 50 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 123 by Representative Bayham

Representative Bayham presented House Bill No. 123, which provides relative to electronic monitoring.

On behalf of the author, Representative Horton offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Horton offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, Moore, and Wiley voted yea.

Cullen Tonry, Secure Monitoring Services, 2300 Pakenham Drive, Chalmette, LA 70043, appeared at the witness table in support of House Bill No. 123.

Ryan Randall, 3204 Van Cleave Drive, Meraux, LA 70075, appeared at the witness table in support of House Bill No. 123.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 123 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 123 was reported by substitute by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, 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.

House Bill No. 219 by Representative Owen

Representative Owen presented House Bill No. 219, which provides relative to post-conviction relief or parole when a verdict is rendered by a non-unanimous jury.

S. Christie Smith IV, 300 East Courthouse Street, Leesville, LA 71446, spoke in support of House Bill No. 219.

Claude-Michael Comeau, Promise of Justice Initiative, 1024 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117, spoke in support of House Bill No. 219.

Representative Moore offered a motion to report House Bill No. 219 favorably.

Tom Costanza, Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2431 South Acadian Thruway, Suite 250, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 219.

Sara Gozalo, Promise of Justice Initiative, 1024 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117, spoke in support of House Bill No. 219.

Herman Evans, 2101 Delery Street, New Orleans, LA 70117, spoke in support of House Bill No. 219.

Zachary T. Daniels, executive director, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, 2525 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 219.

At the request of the author, Representative Horton offered a substitute motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 219. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 219 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support and 3 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 219.

House Bill No. 1065 by Representative Wilford Carter

Representative Wilford Carter presented House Bill No. 1065, which provides relative to parole eligibility, consideration, and hearings for persons convicted by a non-unanimous jury.

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

- (1) Clarify that proposed law applies to individuals who are sixty-five years of age or older, served at least twenty-five years of the sentence imposed, and were convicted by a non-unanimous jury.

- (2) Change the time period for a prisoner, who is convicted by a non-unanimous jury and who meets certain criteria, to reapply for parole consideration from one year to three years.

Representative LaFleur 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, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, Knox, LaFleur, and Wiley voted yea.

Claire Howington, attorney, office of the Sixteenth Judicial District Attorney, 300 Iberia Street, Suite 200, New Iberia, LA 70560, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 1065.

Zachary T. Daniels, executive director, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, 2525 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 1065.

Representative Moore offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1065 with amendments, to which Representative Fontenot objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 3 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Knox, LaFleur, and Moore voted yea. Representatives Villio, Boudreaux, Boyer, Cox, Fontenot, Horton, and Wiley voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 1065.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Debbie Villio
House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice