

House Committee on Insurance

Minutes of Meeting
2026 Regular Session
April 8, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment, chair of the House Committee on Insurance, called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment, chair
Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative Dennis Bamburg, Jr.
Representative Michael Robert "Mike" Bayham, Jr.
Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman
Representative Jack "Jay" William Gallé, Jr.
Representative Brian Leonard Glorioso
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Troy Jude Hebert
Representative Chance Keith Henry
Representative Dana Henry
Representative John R. Illg, Jr., vice chair
Representative Edmond Jordan
Representative Michael Melerine
Representative Shaun Raphael Mena
Representative Ed Murray
Representative Tammy T. Phelps
Representative Roger William Wilder, III

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Adraiana Johnson, legislative analyst
Trinity A Johnson, legislative analyst
Alicia Powell, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Cheryl Domino, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 774 by Representative Boyer**

Representative Boyer presented House Bill No. 774, which provides relative to insurance coverage for hearing aids.

Representative Firment offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative Firment offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bamburg, Bayham, Freeman, Galle, Glorioso, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Mena, Murray, and Wilder voted yea.

Representative Bamburg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 774 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 774 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bamburg, Bayham, Freeman, Galle, Glorioso, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Mena, Murray, and Wilder 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. 702 by Representative Mandie Landry

Representative Mandie Landry presented House Bill No. 702, which requires uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage for transportation network company drivers.

Representative Mandie Landry provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Thomas Corrington, 3431 Prytania St., New Orleans, LA 70115, spoke in support of House Bill No. 702.

T.C. Wicker, 3120 Jefferson Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in support of House Bill No. 702.

Vice Chair Illg in the chair.

Chair Firment in the chair.

Benjamin Albright, Independent Insurance Agents of Louisiana, 18153 E. Petroleum Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke in support of House Bill No. 702.

Christian Rhodes, Uber, 504 Lakeland Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 702 and provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Paula Wellons, Uber, 1555 Poydras St., Ste. 2000, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 702.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 702. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 702 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Bayham, Galle, Glorioso, Green, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Melerine, Mena, Murray, and Wilder voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 477 by Representative Hebert

Representative Hebert presented House Bill No. 477, which modifies provisions of law regarding health insurance coverage of prosthetic and custom orthotic devices and services.

Representative Hebert provided handouts, Exhibits C and D, which are included in the committee records.

Representative Hebert offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Hebert offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Bayham, Galle, Hebert, Dana Henry, Illg, Mena, and Wilder voted yea.

Katie Guillory, 809 Summer Breeze Dr., #1308, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 477.

Jakob Terrebonne, Louisiana Association of Orthotist and Prosthetist, 213 Longfellow Ln., Mandeville, LA 70448, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 477.

Susan S. Ducote, 824 Heather Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 477.

Representative Firment offered a motion to report House Bill No. 477 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 477 was reported by substitute by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Hebert, Chance Henry, Illg, Melerine, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support and 3 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 766 by Representative Freeman

On behalf of Representative Freeman, Julie Stokes, Ellevate Louisiana/Louisiana Oncology Society, 246 Garden Rd., River Ridge, LA 70123, presented House Bill No. 766, which provides relative to coverage for orally administered anti-cancer medications.

Representative Illg offered amendments to:

- (1) Clarify the scope of applicability by specifying that it does not apply to limited-benefit health insurance policies or contracts;
- (2) Establish an exemption for self-funded employee benefit plans governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). It stipulates that proposed law shall not be interpreted as regulating these plans, except to the extent permitted by federal law; and
- (3) Make technical changes.

Representative Illg offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Hebert, Chance Henry, Illg, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

Representative Illg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 766 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 766 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Hebert, Chance Henry, Illg, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 625 by Representative Jordan

Representative Firment announced that action on House Bill No. 625, which requires peer-to-peer car sharing programs to maintain physical damage coverage for shared vehicles during the car sharing period, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 903 by Representative Illg

Representative Illg presented House Bill No. 903, which provides for fines issued by the commissioner of insurance.

Representative Firmert offered amendments to:

- (1) Restore present law relative to various amounts of fines per insurer, person, health insurance issuer, applicant or licensee, or entity for violations and fine aggregation amounts in a calendar year;
- (2) Change the aggregate amount for violations in a calendar year from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 per insurer, person, health insurance issuer, applicant or licensee, or entity;
- (3) Change the aggregate amount the commissioner could levy for violations not to exceed five hundred dollars for each violation from up to \$10,000 to \$100,000 for all violations in a calendar year, unless a fine is established by separate for a lessor, an insurance producer, claims adjuster, and an insurance consultant; and
- (4) Make technical changes.

Adam Patrick, Louisiana Department of Insurance, 1702 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 903.

Representative Firmert offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firmert, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Glorioso, Hebert, Chance Henry, Illg, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

Representative Illg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 903 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 903 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firmert, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Glorioso, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Mena, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 291 by Representative Berault

Representative Berault presented House Bill No. 291, which prohibits health insurers from taking adverse payment or contracting actions against participating facilities based solely on another provider's network status.

Jennifer McMahon, Louisiana Hospital Association, 9521 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke in support of House Bill No. 291.

Thomas Groves, Louisiana Blue, 11416 The Gardens Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 291.

Representative Glorioso offered a motion to report House Bill No. 291 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 291 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Glorioso, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Melerine, Mena, and Murray voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 21 in support and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 866 by Representative Dewitt

Representative Dewitt presented House Bill No. 866, which prohibits pharmacy benefit managers and managed care plans from reducing pharmacy reimbursements.

Representative Firment offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Firment offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Glorioso, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Melerine, and Mena voted yea.

Don Caffery, Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association, 543 Spanish Town Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 866.

Representative Glorioso offered a motion to report House Bill No. 866 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 866 was reported by substitute by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Glorioso, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Melerine, and Mena voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 751 by Representative Taylor

Representative Firment announced that action on House Bill No. 751, which requires insurers or business entities promoting term life insurance policies to provide certain notices to applicants, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 771 by Representative Taylor

Representative Firment announced that action on House Bill No. 771, which provides relative to Medicare as the secondary payer for retirees with employer-sponsored health insurance, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 761 by Representative Hilferty

On behalf of Representative Hilferty, Representative Chance Henry presented House Bill No. 761, which provides with respect to the advisory board created to recommend new treatments for rare cancers.

Representative Chance Henry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 761 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 761 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Glorioso, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Jordan, Melerine, Mena, and Murray 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. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Bagley offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Galle, Glorioso, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Jordan, Melerine, Mena, and Murray voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Michael "Gabe" Firment
House Committee on Insurance

Date adopted: