

House Committee on Insurance

Minutes of Meeting
2026 Regular Session
April 15, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment, chair of the House Committee on Insurance, called the meeting to order at 9:26 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
Marcellus Veal, sergeant at arms
Jabari Williams, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 909 by Representative Spell**

Representative Spell presented House Bill No. 909, which required coverage for behavioral health crisis services.

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 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Freeman, Glorioso, Hebert, Dana Henry, Illg, Melerine, Mena, Murray, and Wilder voted yea.

Representative Firment offered an amendment to:

- (1) Provide that when determining coverage, a health insurance issuer may require the treating provider to provide documentation of all of the following:
 - (a) The presence of a behavioral health crisis at the time of service.
 - (b) The medical necessity of the intervention.
 - (c) A disposition and follow-up plan.

Representative Firment offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Glorioso, Hebert, Illg, Melerine, Mena, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

Holly Howat, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N. Fourth St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 909 and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Illg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 909 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 909 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Glorioso, Hebert, Illg, Melerine, Mena, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1151 by Representative Bayham

Representative Bayham presented House Bill No. 1151, which provides relative to the equity and investments of domestic insurers.

Amber Schreve, Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI), 1702 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1151.

Representative Firment offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1151 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1151 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Freeman, Glorioso, Green, Hebert, Melerine, Mena, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder 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 Bill No. 1154 by Representative Glorioso

Representative Glorioso presented House Bill No. 1154, which prohibits prior authorization requirements for certain generic medications prescribed by qualified physicians.

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 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Freeman, Glorioso, Green, Hebert, Melerine, Mena, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

Representative Glorioso offered amendments to:

- (1) Add to the commercial insurer prohibition that generic medications that are not opioids do not require a prior authorization when prescribed and the wholesale acquisition cost is no more than \$250 per prescription; and
- (2) Prohibit Medicaid managed care organizations from requiring a prior authorization for generic medications when prescribed by an authorized provider whose specialty certification includes the medical indication for which the drug is prescribed.

Stephen Wright, Louisiana Dermatological Society, 2270 Eliza Beaumont Ln., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1154.

Representative Glorioso offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Bayham, Glorioso, Green, Hebert, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Mena, and Wilder voted yea.

Representative Illg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1154 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 1154 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Bayham, Freeman, Glorioso, Green, Hebert, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Mena, and Wilder voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 869 by Representative Lyons

Representative Lyons presented House Bill No. 869, which provides relative to expand glucose-improving medications coverage to individuals based on body mass index.

Vice Chair Illg in the chair.

Chair Firment in the chair.

Representative Firment offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 869. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 869 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Bayham, Freeman, Glorioso, Green, Hebert, Chance Henry, Illg, Jordan, Melerine, Mena, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

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

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 869.

Further action was taken by the committee on House Bill No. 869 on April 23, 2026. Please check for the subsequent action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 869.

House Bill No. 1196 by Representative Freeman

Representative Freeman presented House Bill No. 1196, which provides relative to coverage of colorectal cancer screening, colonoscopies, and associated preventive services.

Vice Chair Illg in the chair.

Julie Stokes, Louisiana Oncology Society, 246 Garden Rd., River Ridge, LA 70123, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1196.

Representative Bayham offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1196 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1196 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bamburg, Bayham, Freeman, Glorioso, Chance Henry, Illg, Melerine, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 1176 by Representative Freeman

Representative Freeman presented House Bill No. 1176, which requires that Medicare Advantage plans provide insurance coverage for integrative care services.

Julie Stokes, Louisiana Oncology Society, 246 Garden Rd., River Ridge, LA 70123, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1176.

Representative Bayham offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1176 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1176 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bamburg, Bayham, Freeman, Glorioso, Chance Henry, Illg, Jordan, Melerine, Mena, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 771 by Representative Taylor

Representative Taylor presented House Bill No. 771, which provides relative to Medicare as the secondary payer for retirees with employer-sponsored health insurance.

Representative Illg offered an amendment to require the health insurance issuer to coordinate Medicare as the secondary payer instead of the primary payer. Representative Illg offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Bamburg, Glorioso, Chance Henry, Illg, Jordan, Melerine, Mena, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

Heath Williams, Office of Group Benefits, 1201 N. Third St., Ste. G-159, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 771.

Frank Opelka, LDI, 1702 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 771.

Representative Phelps offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 771. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 771 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Bamburg, Bayham, Glorioso, Chance Henry, Illg, Jordan, Melerine, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder 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. 751 by Representative Taylor

Representative Taylor presented House Bill No. 751, which requires insurers or business entities promoting term life insurance policies to provide certain notices to applicants.

Representative Illg offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 751. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 751 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Bamburg, Freeman, Glorioso, Chance Henry, Illg, Jordan, Melerine, Mena, Murray, and Wilder voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 920 by Representative Jordan

Representative Illg announced that action on House Bill No. 920, which requires drug manufacturers to limit pricing of GLP-1 medications for health insurance plans, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 1199 by Representative Jordan

Representative Illg announced that action on House Bill No. 1199, which provides relative to health insurance coverage for genetic testing and the treatment of SCN2A-associated medical conditions, was voluntarily deferred.

The committee stood at ease at 10:48 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:49 a.m.

House Bill No. 452 by Representative Amedee

Representative Amedee presented House Bill No. 452, which prohibits financial incentives or penalties to encourage healthcare providers to administer vaccinations.

Representative Amedee provided handouts, Exhibit B and Exhibit C, which are included in the committee records.

Jill Hines, Health Freedom Louisiana, 1307 Mesa Ave., Ruston, LA 71270, spoke in support of House Bill No. 452 and provided a handout, Exhibit D, which is included in the committee records.

Kelly Couture, 37173 Sue St., Geismar, LA 70734, spoke in support of House Bill No. 452.

Tracy Rene Helms-Capasso, 7715 Nelson St., New Orleans, LA 70125, spoke in support of House Bill No. 452.

Holly Groh, 427 Exposition Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70118, spoke in support of House Bill No. 452.

Chair Firmment in the chair.

David Lavergne, Louisiana Blue, 5525 Reitz Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 452.

Stewart T. Gordon, Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, 9754 Chateau Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 452.

Representative Wilder offered a motion to report House Bill No. 452 favorably, to which Representative Freeman objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas and 12 nays. Representatives Firmment, Bagley, Galle, and Wilder voted yea. Representatives Bamburg, Freeman, Glorioso, Green, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Mena, Murray, and Phelps voted nay.

Representative Firmment offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 452. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 452 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firmment, Bagley, Bamburg, Freeman, Galle, Glorioso, Green, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Mena, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 30 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 452.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Jordan offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Firment, Bagley, Bamburg, Freeman, Galle, Glorioso, Green, Hebert, Chance Henry, Dana Henry, Illg, Jordan, Mena, Murray, Phelps, and Wilder voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Michael "Gabe" Firment
House Committee on Insurance

Date adopted: