

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2020 Second Extraordinary Session
October 20, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stephen C. Dwight, chairman of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Stephen C. Dwight, chairman
Representative Royce Duplessis, vice chairman
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Charles Alexander Henry
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Michael T. Johnson
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV
Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative Malinda B. White

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst
Lorriane Lucas, attorney
Rosalie Ammersbach, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Nicolas Garon, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 71 by Senator Peacock**

Senator Peacock presented Senate Bill No. 71, which provides for participation in certain meetings by teleconferencing or other electronic means for legislative bodies.

Representative Jenkins offered amendments to change the vote requirement for consideration of matters provided for by proposed law from unanimous to two-thirds. Representative Jenkins offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

Representative Jenkins offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 71 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 71 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

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. 20 by Senator Hewitt

Senator Hewitt presented Senate Bill No. 20, which provides relative to voting and the holding of elections impaired as the result of a declared emergency or disaster.

Representative Ivey offered amendments to:

- (1) Remove all provisions for the membership, meetings, quorum requirements, and powers and procedures relative to the proposed Emergency Election Commission. Restore present law regarding approval by the legislative committees and the governor.
- (2) Make changes relative to the issues that may be addressed by an emergency plan, and authorize the secretary of state to submit alternative plans and to incorporate changes suggested and approved by the joint committee.

- (3) Require the governmental affairs committees to meet jointly and to send the governor notice of meetings.
- (4) Require the governor to either approve or veto the plan no later than five days after receipt of the tabulation sheet of the legislative vote and authorize the legislature to override the veto by a two-thirds vote.
- (5) Change the method and deadlines for the ballot transmitted to the legislature for approval of the plan and provide that the same method and deadlines are to be used for override of a gubernatorial veto of the plan.
- (6) Change effective date from January 1, 2021, to upon signature of the governor.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 20 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 20 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

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

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 4 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 74 by Senator Cloud

Senator Cloud presented Senate Bill No. 74, which provides relative to election offenses affecting registration and election fraud or forgery.

Nancy Landry, office of the Louisiana secretary of state, no address provided, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 74.

Representative Mike Johnson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 74 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 74 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 12 by Senator Jackson

Representative Dwight announced that action on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 12, which provides for legislative approval of State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) adopted adjustments to the minimum foundation program (MFP) formula by ballot when the legislature is not in session, had been voluntarily deferred by the author.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 12. Without objection, action on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 12 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS**Discussion and consideration of the proposed changes to the campaign finance disclosure reporting forms, instructions, and summaries based upon Act No. 161 of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature and technical changes.**

Kathleen M. Allen, Louisiana Board of Ethics, P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 219-5600, presented a set of documents to the committee which are included in the records of this meeting and labeled Exhibit A.

Ms. Allen stated that the forms were amended to reflect changes made to the disclosure of the purchase of raffle tickets and the way they were reported; and persons making cash contributions under one hundred dollars are no longer required to provide their social security number. Ms. Allen said the changes were made on candidate forms, political committee forms, and forms that are filed by other persons who support or oppose candidates.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to approve the campaign finance forms and instructions changes. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

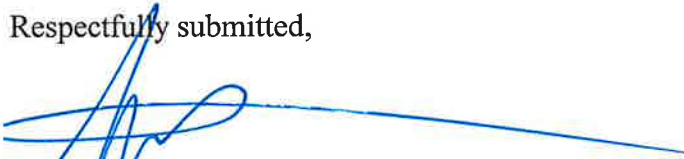
There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representative Dwight abstained.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman John M. Stefanski
House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: April 22, 2021

The committee has acknowledged on April 22, 2021, that these minutes were prepared in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives.