

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2013 Regular Session
May 29, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Timothy G. "Tim" Burns, Chairman of the Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. in Room 2, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Taylor F. Barras
Representative John A. Berthelot
Representative Michael E. Danahay, Vice Chair
Representative Randal L. Gaines
Representative Gregory A. Miller
Representative Stephen E. Pugh
Representative John M. Schroder, Sr.
Representative Timothy G. "Tim" Burns, Chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Jared C. Brossett
Representative Girod Jackson III

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, Legislative Analyst
Mark Mahaffey, Attorney
Shawn O'Brien, Secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Susan Broussard, Sergeant at Arms
Andrew Hoz, Clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 167 by Senator Chabert

Senator Chabert presented Senate Bill No. 167, which transfers the Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board to the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. He said the bill will clarify the lines between lobbying and advocacy on the one hand and marketing and promotion on

the other. He explained that a strictly marketing board is not the body to address the safety of the seafood product and environmental issues that need to be fought on behalf of the fisherman.

Representative Miller offered a set of amendments to change the way the agency is transferred to the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and to remove the ability of the board to hire its own director and assistant director subject to the approval of the department secretary.

Representative Miller offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Barras, Berthelot, Danahay, Miller, Pugh, Schroder, and Burns voted yea.

Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne, Department of Culture Recreation and Tourism (DCRT), P. O. Box 44243, Baton Rouge, LA, informed the committee that DCRT can ably assist the marketing board in its mission.

Senator Bret Allain spoke in support of the bill.

Representative Joe Harrison appeared in support of the bill.

Mr. Stan Harris, President, Louisiana Restaurant Association, 2700 N. Arnoult Rd., Metairie, LA, 504-454-2277; Mr. Alan Gibson, 7660 Grand Callou Rd., Dulac, LA; and Mr. Clint Guidry, La. Shrimp Association, 4241 Jean Lafitte Blvd., Lafitte, LA, 504-952-4368, submitted cards in support of the bill.

Chef John Folse, La. Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board, 2517 S. Philippe, Gonzales, LA, 225-413-3101, in opposition to the bill, said that the original mission of the marketing board was to coordinate efforts to promote quality local seafood and keep prices up. The board is now divided between marketing and the lobbying task force, whose cohesive efforts along with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries helped mitigate the impacts of recent hurricanes and the British Petroleum oil spill disaster on the local industry. He expressed concern about the differences between marketing commodities and marketing tourism, including appropriate staffing, the learning curve the change would require for DCRT, and oversight and use of remaining funding from the oil spill.

Mr. Frank Randol, Randol's Seafood and Resaturant, 2320 Kaliste Saloom Rd., Lafayette, LA, 337-981-7080, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Mr. Karl Turner, ALC Specialty Food, 5028 Laurel St., New Orleans, LA, 504-924-3178; Mr. Harlon Pearce, LA Fish LLC, 606 Short St., Kenner, LA, 504-467-3809; and Mr. Keith Watts, Seafood Promotion Board and Crab Task Force, 39161 Everett Lane, Ponchatoula, LA, 985-974-0341, submitted witness cards stating their opposition to the bill.

Mr. John Tesvich, Louisiana Oyster Task Force, 30300 Highway 23, Buras, LA, 504-912-2750, and Mr. Ewell Smith, Louisiana Seafood Board, 2021 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, LA 70122, 504-386-8732, submitted cards for information.

Representative Miller offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 167 with amendments, to which Representative Pugh objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion passed by a vote of 5

yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Barras, Berthelot, Gaines, Miller, and Burns voted yea. Representative Pugh voted nay.

Senate Bill No. 178 by Senator Riser

Representative Broadwater presented Senate Bill No. 178 on behalf of the author. It allows the placement of voter registration application forms at certain retailers selling firearms.

Ms. Merietta Norton, secretary of state's office, P. O. Box 91425, Baton Rouge, LA, 225-922-8547, informed the members that the applications could be made available at the point of purchase, although the retailers would not be considered voter registration agencies.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 178 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Barras, Berthelot, Gaines, Miller, Pugh, and Burns voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 78 by Senator Amedee

Senator Amedee presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 78, which requests joint study of the appropriate use of campaign funds and the administration and enforcement of laws within the jurisdiction of the Board of Ethics.

Representative Burns offered a set of amendments to broaden the study to include administration and enforcement of other laws under the jurisdiction of the board.

Representative Burns offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Barras, Berthelot, Gaines, Miller, Pugh, and Burns voted yea.

Representative Burns offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 78 with amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Barras, Berthelot, Gaines, Miller, Pugh, and Burns voted yea.

House Resolution No. 122 by Representative Richard

Representative Richard presented House Resolution No. 122, which provides relative to vote changes.

Representative Miller offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Resolution No. 122. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Barras, Danahay, Gaines, Miller, Pugh, and Burns voted yea.

House Resolution No. 121 by Representative Richard

Representative Richard presented House Resolution No. 121, which provides that the voting machines shall be closed after a specific time period.

Representative Miller offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Resolution No. 121. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Barras, Danahay, Gaines, Miller, Pugh, and Burns voted yea.

House Resolution No. 135 by Representative Pugh

Representative Pugh presented House Resolution No. 135, which changes a current House Rule providing for a memorial delegation to attend certain funeral services and provides instead for a Memorial Day Celebration and delegation.

Representative Miller offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 135 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Barras, Danahay, Gaines, Miller, Pugh, and Burns voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 102 by Senator Adley

Senator Adley presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 102, which establishes a task force to study and make recommendations relative to the authority for and use of the design-build method for contracts by public entities.

Representative Burns offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 102 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Barras, Danahay, Gaines, Miller, Pugh, and Burns voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to come before the committee.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

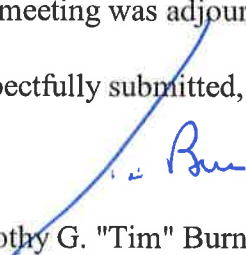
There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Miller offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Barras, Danahay, Gaines, Miller, Pugh, and Burns voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Timothy G. "Tim" Burns, Chairman
House and Governmental Affairs

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adopted 5/28/14