

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2016 Regular Session
May 11, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Michael E. Danahay, chairman of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. in Room 2, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Michael E. Danahay, chairman
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr.
Representative Jimmy Harris
Representative Dorothy Sue Hill
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Gregory A. Miller
Representative Stephen E. Pugh, vice chairman
Representative Robert E. Shadoin

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Lance Harris
Representative John C. "Jay" Morris, III
Representative John M. Schroder, Sr.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst
Mark Mahaffey, attorney
Shawn O'Brien, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Beverly Hurst, sergeant at arms
Abigail Reynolds, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 395 by Senator Ward

Senator Ward presented Senate Bill No. 395, which provides relative to the Louisiana State Law Institute.

Representative Danahay offered amendments to specify that the public building where a council meeting is held need be open to the public only for purposes of the meeting; relative to a place where a council meeting is to be held, provide a preference for a meeting place that is available without charge or at a reduced cost; relative to meetings of the council that are held in Baton Rouge, remove the preference for holding such meetings at the state capitol and provide instead a preference for holding such meetings at Louisiana State University unless another meeting space at a public building is available at a lower cost; and to encourage public entities to make meeting space available at reduced cost in addition to making space available without charge. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Gary Carter, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, and Pugh voted yea.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 395 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 395 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Gary Carter, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, and Pugh 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 Concurrent Resolution No. 69 by Representative Leger

On behalf of Representative Leger, Representative Danahay presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 69, which continues the Louisiana Justice Reinvestment Task Force to develop certain sentencing and corrections policy recommendations.

Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 69 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 69 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Gary Carter, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, and Pugh voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 474 by Senator Cortez

Senator Cortez presented Senate Bill No. 474, which names a certain complex of state buildings and area in the city of Lafayette the Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton, Jr. Sports and Entertainment Plaza.

Representative Danahay offered technical amendments to the bill. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Gary Carter, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, and Pugh voted yea.

Representative Jimmy Harris offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 474 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 474 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Gary Carter, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, and Pugh 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. 64 by Senator Luneau

Senator Luneau presented Senate Bill No. 64, which provides an exception for an attorney serving on a civil service commission.

Representative Danahay offered amendments to specifically allow the receipt of a thing of economic value for legal services rendered to a classified employee by an attorney serving on a civil service commission or by a related legal entity provided such services do not involve a matter under the supervision or jurisdiction of the commission; to additionally require such a civil service commission member to recuse himself from participating in a matter involving a classified employee if any legal entity in which he exercises control or owns an interest is rendering legal services to the classified employee; and to remove the provision stating that an attorney may serve on a civil service commission. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin voted yea.

Kathleen Allen, Louisiana Board of Ethics, P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, 225-219-5600, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 64.

Representative Jenkins offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 64 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 64 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17 by Senator Johns

Senator Johns presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17, which creates the Riverboat Economic Development and Gaming Task Force.

Representative Danahay offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Jimmy Harris, Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin 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. 217 by Senator Bishop

Senator Bishop presented Senate Bill No. 217, which provides for the confidentiality of records disclosed to or by the commissioner of insurance during the course of an insurance receivership.

Arlene D. Knighten, Louisiana Department of Insurance, 1702 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 217.

Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 217 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 217 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Gary Carter, Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 57 by Senator Bishop

Senator Bishop presented Senate Bill No. 57, which prohibits the increase in salary of unclassified employees in the executive branch of state government for a period commencing on the gubernatorial election day and concluding on inauguration day.

Representative Danahay offered amendments to specify that the time period commences on the regularly scheduled gubernatorial primary election day; to require the submission of specified documentation relative to the pay increase to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget and specify that if the committee receives such documentation, the committee shall have a meeting to consider approval; to exempt positions in a postsecondary or higher education system or institution; and to change terminology for consistency. Representative Danahay offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Gary Carter, Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin voted yea.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 57 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 57 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Danahay, Gary Carter, Hill, Ivey, Jenkins, Gregory Miller, Pugh, and Shadoin 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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Michael E. Danahay
House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: