

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2016 Regular Session
May 17, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. in Room 5, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative J. Rogers Pope
Representative Julie Stokes
Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Bob Hensgens
Representative Katrina R. Jackson
Representative Mike Johnson
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative H. Bernard LeBas
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Thomas P. Willmott, vice chairman
Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman
Representative Walt Leger, III, ex officio

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Marcus L. Hunter
Representative Helena N. Moreno

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Felicie Jackson, secretary
Brandi Cannon, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Vivian Hurst, sergeant-at-arms
Faye Talbot, sergeant-at-arms
Dmitris McGruder, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 475 by Senator White**

Senator White presented Senate Bill No. 475, which creates the Ambulance Transfer Alternatives Task Force.

Representative Pope offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 475 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 475 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pope, Stokes, Horton, Cox, Hensgens, Jackson, Mike Johnson, LeBas, Magee, Dustin Miller, Willmott, and Hoffmann 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. 397 by Senator Johns

Senator Johns presented Senate Bill No. 397, which provides relative to the Specialized Provider Licensing Act.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 397 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 397 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pope, Stokes, Horton, Cox, Hensgens, Jackson, Mike Johnson, LeBas, Magee, Willmott, and Hoffmann 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. 473 by Senator Johns

On behalf of Senator Johns, Greg Waddell, Louisiana Hospital Association, 9521 Brookline Ave, Baton Rouge, LA, 70890, (225) 938-0026, presented Senate Bill No. 473, which provides for the Louisiana Health Insurance Premium Payment Program.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments, which:

1. Revise proposed law relative to identification by DHH of persons who have access to employer-sponsored health coverage to provide that the department shall inquire with each Medicaid applicant at the time of his application and with each Medicaid enrollee at the time of his annual eligibility redetermination whether he has an opportunity to access such employer-sponsored coverage either directly or through a family member.
2. Revise proposed law relative to transition of persons into employer-sponsored health coverage to provide that DHH shall develop and execute a plan to transition Medicaid recipients identified as having access to employer-sponsored health insurance coverage into such coverage as soon as is practicable.
3. Provide that DHH may consider any other relevant factors in its determination of which Medicaid recipients may participate in the La. Health Insurance Premium Payment Program.
4. Make technical, corrective, and clarifying changes.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pope, Stokes, Horton, Cox, Hensgens, Jackson, Robert Johnson, LeBas, Magee, Dustin Miller, Willmott, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Dustin Miller offered concept amendments, which inserts the following language on page 2, line 12:

1. The department may include any other relevant factors in their determination of which enrollees may participate in the program.

Representative Dustin Miller offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pope, Stokes, Horton, Cox, Hensgens, Jackson, Mike Johnson, Robert Johnson, LeBas, Magee, Dustin Miller, Willmott, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Jeff Reynolds, Department of Health and Hospitals, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA, 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke to provide information only on Senate Bill 473.

Frank A. Opelka, Department of Health and Hospitals, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA, 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke to provide information only on Senate Bill 473.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 473 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 473 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pope, Stokes, Horton, Hensgens, Jackson, Mike Johnson, Robert Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Willmott, and Hoffmann 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.

House Bill No. 790 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 790, which provides for implementation of a Medicaid managed long term services and supports system.

Stephanie Patrick, Advocacy Center, 8325 Oak St, New Orleans, LA, 70118, (504) 460-5200, spoke in support of House Bill No. 790.

Kelly Viator, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association, P.O. Box 66825, Baton Rouge, LA, 70894, (225) 343-9880, spoke in support of House Bill No. 790.

Warren Hebert, 409 Austin Village Blvd, Lafayette, LA, 70508, (337) 380-4545, spoke in support of House Bill No. 790.

Andrew Muhl, American Association of Retired Persons, 301 Main St, Ste 1012, Baton Rouge, LA, 70825, (225) 276-1941, spoke in support of House Bill No. 790.

Jeff Drozda, Louisiana Association of Health Plans, 450 Laurel St, Ste 1850, Baton Rouge, LA, 70801, (225) 378-3205, spoke in support of House Bill No. 790.

Hugh Eley, 286 Alelo Dr, Baton Rouge, LA, 70806, (225) 926-9660, spoke to provide information only on House Bill No. 790.

Donna Minton, Nexion Health, 15303 Paseo Del Rey, Houston, TX, 77083, (281) 513-2164, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 790.

Joe McPherson, 2000 Maison Rue, Woodworth, LA, (318) 728-5696, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 790.

Joseph Donchess, Louisiana Nursing Home Association, 7844 Office Park Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA, 70809, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 790.

Joseph Pearson, The Golden Rule Care Provider, LLC, 2214 Grand Point Rd, Breaux Bridge, LA, 70517, (337) 332-4005, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 790.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 790. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 790 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pope, Stokes, Bagley, Horton, Cox, Jackson, Robert Johnson, LeBas, Magee, Dustin Miller, Willmott, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 17 in support, and 18 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 112 by Representative Carpenter

Representative Carpenter presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 112, which requests a study of systems for providing appropriate mental health and behavioral health treatment in the capital region.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 112 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 112 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pope, Stokes, Bagley, Horton, Cox, Jackson, LeBas, Magee, Dustin Miller, Willmott, and Hoffmann 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. 429 by Senator Barrow

Representative Hoffmann announced that Senate Bill No. 429, which provides for the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, is voluntarily deferred.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to discuss.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Frank A. Hoffmann
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: