

House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Minutes of Meeting
2016 Regular Session
April 12, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Kenneth E. Havard, chairman of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. in Room 3, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Kenneth E. Havard, chairman
Representative Bryan Adams
Representative Terry R. Brown
Representative Barbara W. Carpenter
Representative A B Franklin
Representative Jerry Gisclair
Representative John E. Guinn
Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall
Representative Dorothy Sue Hill
Representative Frank A. Howard
Representative Terry C. Landry, Sr., vice chairman
Representative H. Bernard LeBas
Representative Barbara M. Norton
Representative Vincent J. Pierre
Representative J. Rogers Pope
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Stephen F. Carter
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Jack Montoucet

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kimberly Callaway, attorney
Ashleigh Clare-Kearney, attorney

Angelique R. Mozee, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Beverly Hurst, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 337 by Representative Schexnayder

Representative Schexnayder presented House Bill No. 337, which restricts the safety helmet requirement to motorcycle riders and operators and riders under the age of twenty-one and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Randy Postlethwait, A.B.A.T.E of Louisiana, Inc., 10015 Trailridge Drive, Shreveport, Louisiana 71106, (318) 797-9636, spoke in support of House Bill No. 337.

Cecil Crawford, motorcyclists, 198 Russwood, Ruston, Louisiana 71270, (318) 255-8096, spoke in support of House Bill No. 337.

Donnie R. Brown, A.B.A.T.E of Louisiana, 150 Pea Ridge Arena Road, Dubach, Louisiana 71235, (318) 245-3790, spoke in support of House Bill No. 337.

John LeBlanc, Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, 7919 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806, (225) 925-6700, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 337.

Karen St. Germain, commissioner, Office of Motor Vehicles, P.O. Box 64886, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70896, (225) 925-4656, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 337.

Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 337 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 337 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Havard, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, Terry Landry, LeBas, Norton, Pierre, Pope, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support, and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 841 by Representative Jay Morris

Representative Havard announced that action on House Bill No. 841, which requires certain entities to follow the Public Bid Law under certain circumstances, is being voluntarily deferred.

Representative Terry Landry in the chair.

House Bill No. 853 by Representative Robert Johnson

Representative Robert Johnson presented House Bill No. 853, which changes the composition of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission and provides for additional authority of the commission and provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Samuel Maddie, Avoyelles Parish Port, P. O. Box 127, Simmesport, Louisiana, no zip code provided, (318) 941-2487, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 853.

Don Hines, P. O. Box 262, Bunkie, Louisiana, no zip code provided, (225) 933-5001, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 853.

Charles Riddle, III, Avoyelles Parish Port Commission, P. O. Box 1200, Marksville, Louisiana 71351, (318) 253-6587, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 853.

Mike Robertson, Kisatche-Delta Regional Planning and Development, 3516 Parliament, Alexandria, Louisiana, no zip code provided, (318) 717- 0501, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 853.

Brad Augustine, Brudd Construction, P. O. Box 729, Simmesport, Louisiana 71369, (318) 941-2212, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 853.

A. J. Roy, The Cottonport Bank, no address/zip code provided, (318) 201-3062, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 853.

Representative Terry Landry offered amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Revert back to the original name of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission instead of the proposed change to Avoyelles Parish Port and Waterway Commission and removes the assignment provision.
3. Clarify that the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission is composed of nine members with one member domiciled in each police jury district.
4. Add the senator representing Senate District 32 as a legislator designated to appoint members of the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission.

Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry

Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, LeBas, Pierre, Pope, and White voted yea.

Representative Havard in the chair.

Representative Franklin offered a motion to report House Bill No. 853 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 853 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Havard, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Franklin, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hill, Howard, Terry Landry, LeBas, Norton, Pierre, Pope, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 10 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 895 by Representative Zeringue

Representative Zeringue presented House Bill No. 895, which grants preferences to Louisiana resident contractors for integrated coastal protection projects.

Ken Naquin, Louisiana Associated General Contractors, 666 North Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802, (225) 344-0432, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 895.

John Walters, Associated Builders and Contractors, 19251 Highland Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809, (225) 752-1415, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 895.

Derrell Cohoon, Associated General Contractors, 714 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804, (225) 336-4657, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 895.

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 895 favorably, to which Representative Howard objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed by a vote of 4 yeas and 10 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Gisclair, Hill, and Terry Landry voted yea. Representatives Havard, Terry Brown, Guinn, Hall, Howard, LeBas, Norton, Pierre, Pope, and White voted nay.

Representative Zeringue requested the chairman to turn House Bill No. 895 into a study resolution to allow the Law Institute to review the opportunity for the Louisiana contractors. Representative Havard advised Representative Zeringue that he needed to file a separate House Concurrent Resolution or House Resolution in order for it to be heard in committee.

Representative Havard announced that action on House Bill No. 895 is being voluntarily deferred.

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

House Bill No. 1003 by Representative Zeringue

Representative Zeringue presented House Bill No. 1003, which creates the "K9s4COPS" special prestige license plate.

Representative Terry Brown offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1003 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1003 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Havard, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, Terry Landry, LeBas, Pierre, Pope, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 591 by Representative Terry Landry

Representative Terry Landry presented House Bill No. 591, which permits vehicles operated by engines fueled wholly or partially with compressed or liquefied natural gas to exceed gross vehicle weight limits and axle weight limits.

Representative Terry Landry offered amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Provide proposed law would apply to a vehicle with an engine fueled primarily rather than wholly or partially with compressed or liquified natural gas.

Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Havard, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, Terry Landry, LeBas, Pierre, Pope, and White voted yea.

Representative LeBas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 591 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 591 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Havard, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, Terry Landry, LeBas, Norton, Pierre, Pope, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 10 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1000 by Representative Carpenter

Representative Carpenter presented House Bill No. 1000, which redesignates the U.S. 190 Mississippi River Bridge in Baton Rouge as the "Huey P. Long - O.K. Allen Bridge".

Representative Norton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1000 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1000 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Havard, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, Terry Landry, LeBas, Norton, Pierre, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 817 by Representative Carmody

Representative Carmody presented House Bill No. 817, which makes changes to requirements for access permits issued by the Dept. of Transportation and Development.

Joshua Hollins, Department of Transportation and Development, 2102 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802, (225) 379-1200, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 817.

Chance McNeely, Department of Transportation and Development, 2102 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802, (225) 379-1089, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 817.

Representative Havard offered amendments to:

1. Remove the requirements that the access connection permit be granted or denied within forty-five days from receipt of the request form and that the permit be considered granted if it is not granted or denied within that time period.
2. Remove the requirements that an access connection permit be granted or denied within thirty days from receipt of the request form if the property owner provides the department with actual field measurements for sight distance and sight obstructions and that the permit be considered granted if it is not granted or denied within that time period.
3. Provide that the application for an access connection permit must be made to the department district office for the state highway district in which the site of the requested access connection permit is located.
4. Specify that if an access connection permit is not granted or denied within 45 days after submission of an application the application shall be transferred immediately to the department headquarters for review and determination if the applicant requests such transfer.
5. Require the department headquarters to respond to an applicant of a transferred application pursuant to the subsection within 10 days of receipt of the application.

Representative Havard offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Havard, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hill, Howard, Terry Landry, LeBas, Norton, and White voted yea.

Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 817. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 817 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Havard, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Howard, Terry Landry, LeBas, Norton, and White voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Kenneth E. Havard
House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Date adopted: