

## **House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs**

Minutes of Meeting  
2017 Regular Session  
June 1, 2017

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative John A. Berthelot, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative John A. Berthelot, chairman  
Representative Robert E. Billiot  
Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.  
Representative Stephen C. Dwight  
Representative Rick Edmonds  
Representative Cedric B. Glover  
Representative Stephanie Hilferty  
Representative Mike Huval, vice chairman  
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.  
Representative Rodney Lyons  
Representative C. Denise Marcelle  
Representative Stephen E. Pugh  
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith  
Representative Malinda B. White

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Paula P. Davis  
Representative Barbara M. Norton  
Representative Jerome Richard  
Representative Joseph A. Stagni

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tina Righteous, attorney  
Valarie Banks, secretary

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Carter Stone, clerk  
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms  
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms  
Lauren Griffin, page

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

**Senate Bill No. 227 by Senator Barrow**

Senator Barrow presented Senate Bill No. 227, which creates and provides for the Bethany Convention Center Development District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Representative Huval offered technical amendments including deleting a reference to the payment of a food and beverage tax by certain persons. Representative Huval offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Jenkins, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, and White voted yea.

Darnell Waites, mayor, city of Baker, 3325 Groom Road, Baker, LA 70714, (225) 615-4194, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 227.

Representative Edmonds recused himself because of his employment as a pastor at Bethany Church and left the room prior to the vote.

Representative Bouie offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 227 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 227 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, and White 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.

**Senate Bill No. 222 by Senator Erdey**

Senator Erdey presented Senate Bill No. 222, which provides benefits for firemen and law enforcement officers who suffer a catastrophic injury resulting in permanent and total disability caused by an individual with the specific intent to kill an officer while the officer is engaged in the performance of his official duties.

Representative Huval offered amendments to add wildlife agents of the enforcement division of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to the definition of "law enforcement officer" and to provide that the agents are added at the agency's cost, if any. Representative Huval offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, and White voted yea.

Representative Pugh offered amendments to name the proposed law "Nicholas Tullier's Law". Representative Pugh offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, Smith, and White voted yea.

Mary Tullier, 11991 South Main Street, Houston, TX 77035, (225) 485-5073, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 222.

Cole Garrett, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 222.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 222 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 222 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, and Smith voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

**To determine whether the following entities shall be continued, modified, or terminated as required by Act No. 184 of the 2013 Regular Session:**

- Grant Parish Economic and Industrial Development District Board of Commissioners
- Iberia Economic Development Authority Board of Commissioners
- North Lafayette Redevelopment Authority Board of Commissioners
- I-12 Retirement District Board of Directors

Rick McGimsey, state of Louisiana, division of administration, 1201 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-5078, stated that the Iberia Economic Development Authority Board of Commissioners and the North Lafayette Redevelopment Authority Board of Commissioners have accessed the division's website and updated the information on their entities as required by statute.

Mr. McGimsey stated that Grant Parish has not responded to the division's communications for the past three years. Chairman Berthelot noted that Representative Terry Brown was the author of House Bill No. 260 of the 2017 Regular Session, which repeals provisions for the Grant Parish Economic and Industrial Development District. At the time of this meeting, House Bill No. 260 was pending Senate final passage and was scheduled for debate on June 2, 2017.

Mr. McGimsey stated that the chairman of the I-12 Retirement District Board of Directors had retired and all mail had been returned as undeliverable.

Representative Hilferty asked Mr. McGimsey to explain the minutes submission procedure, and Mr. McGimsey complied. Mr. McGimsey stated that a motion from the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs was needed to begin the process to terminate noncompliant boards, after which a legislator could author a bill to repeal the provisions that created the boards.

Representative Smith offered a motion to terminate boards that are not in compliance. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, and Smith voted yea.

## **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Huval offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion to adjourn passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Hilferty, Huval, Jenkins, Lyons, Marcelle, Pugh, and Smith voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman John A. Berthelot  
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: