

House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Regular Session
May 8, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Terry Landry, vice chairman of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Terry C. Landry, Sr., vice chairman
Representative Terry R. Brown
Representative Barbara W. Carpenter
Representative Stephen F. Carter
Representative A B Franklin
Representative Jerry Gisclair
Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall
Representative Dorothy Sue Hill
Representative Frank A. Howard
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Barbara M. Norton
Representative Vincent J. Pierre
Representative J. Rogers Pope
Representative John M. Stefanski
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Kenneth E. Havard, chairman
Representative John E. Guinn
Representative H. Bernard LeBas

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ashleigh Clare-Kearney, attorney
Craig Cassagne, attorney
Angelique R. Mozee, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Zachary Lester, committee clerk
Clementine Johnson, sergeant at arms
Beverly Vincent, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 241 by Representative Chad Brown**

Representative Chad Brown presented House Bill No. 241, which expands requirements within driver education and prelicensing training courses.

Representative Terry Landry offered an amendment to make a technical change. Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Franklin, Hall, Hill, Howard, Marcelle, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Ms. Karen St. Germain, commissioner, office of motor vehicles, P.O. Box 64886, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, (225) 925-6161, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 241.

Ms. Staci Hoyt, office of motor vehicles, P.O. Box 64886, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, (225) 925-4656, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 241.

Reverend Dayne Huval, president, Driving School Association, 330 Guilbeau Road, Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 247-5249, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 241.

Representative Pope offered a motion to report House Bill No. 241 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 241 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Franklin, Hall, Hill, Howard, Marcelle, Norton, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 257 by Representative Hollis

Representative Hollis presented House Bill No. 257, which provides relative to the use of traffic cameras.

Representative Steve Carter offered amendments to:

1. Clarify the provision in this act will not interfere with the use of these cameras' features or function that enable law enforcement to search for wanted vehicles.
2. Require the political subdivision to cease use by November 13, 2017.
3. Make technical changes to the title.

Representative Steve Carter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Franklin, Hall, Hill, Howard, Marcelle, Norton, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Mr. Daniel Hayes, Libertarian Party, 216 Manson Avenue, Apt. B, Metairie, LA 70001, (504) 258-6176, spoke in support of House Bill No. 257.

Mr. John Gallagher, Louisiana Municipal Association, 700 North 10th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 344-5001, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 257.

Mr. Mike Knaps, Louisiana Association of Chief of Police, 700 North 10th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 387-3261, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 257.

Mr. Rodney Braxton, City of New Orleans, 543 Spanish Town Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 381-0166, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 257.

Mr. Anthony Micheu, New Orleans Police Department, 715 South Broad Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 235-4573, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 257.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to call the question on the bill. Without objection, by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays, the question on the bill was called. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, Marcelle, Norton, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Representative Terry Brown offered a motion to report House Bill No. 257 with amendments, to which Representative Carpenter objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed by a vote of 1 yea and 14 nays. Representative Terry Brown voted yea. Representatives Terry Landry, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, Marcelle, Norton, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, and 13 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 547 by Representative Hazel

Representative Hazel presented House Bill No. 547, which provides for an additional fee on driver's license applications to benefit the Military Family Assistance Fund.

Representative Terry Landry offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, Marcelle, Norton, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Ms. Staci Hoyt, office of motor vehicles, P.O. 64886, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, (225) 925-4656, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 547.

Mr. Homer Rodgers, undersecretary, Louisiana Division of Veterans Affairs, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 219-5000, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 547.

Ms. Brandi Melissa, P.O. Box 1171, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, spoke in support of House Bill No. 547.

Representative Gisclair offered a motion to report House Bill No. 547 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 547 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Howard, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 437 by Representative White

Representative White presented House Bill No. 437, which authorizes an alternative method of instruction for the classroom portion of approved prelicensing training courses.

Representative Terry Landry offered amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Clarify that the classroom instruction portion of the prelicensing training course is six hours and is available to those persons 18 years of age or older.
3. Prohibit persons under the age of 18 from participating in the alternative method of instruction that does not require students to be present in a traditional classroom.

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, Steve Carter, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Norton, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Ms. Stephanie Baum, office of motor vehicles, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 922-1664, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 437.

Mr. Duane Cowart, Driving School Association of Louisiana, 10935 Perkins Road, Suite A, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 405-4088, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 437.

Reverend Dayne Huvel, president, Driving School Association of Louisiana, 330 Guilbeau Road, Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 247-5249, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 437.

Ms. Staci Hoyt, office of motor vehicles, P.O. Box 64886, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, (225) 925-4656, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 437.

Ms. Yvette Dufrene, driving school, 155 North Barrios Street, Lockport, LA 70374, (985) 532-6390, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 437.

Ms. Gisela Chevalier, J and G International Driving School, 3402 Florida Aveune, Kenner, LA 70065, (504) 905-8639, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 437.

Ms. Karen St. Germain, commissioner, office of motor vehicles, P.O. Box 64886, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, (225) 925-6161, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 437.

Representative Terry Brown offered a motion to report House Bill No. 437 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 437 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Norton, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, and 7 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 465 by Representative Steve Carter

Representative Steve Carter presented House Bill No. 465, which establishes maximum speed limits for certain motor vehicles on interstate highways.

Representative Terry Landry offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the motion passed by

a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Norton, Pierre, Pope, and Stefanski voted yea.

Ms. Cathy Gautreaux, executive director, Louisiana Motor Transport Association, P.O. Box 80278, Baton Rouge, LA 70898, (225) 928-5682, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 465.

Mr. Joshua Hollins, Department of Transportation and Development, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 379-1200, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 465.

Captain Greg Graphia, Louisiana State Police, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 925-4236, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 465.

Representative Gisclair offered a motion to report House Bill No. 465 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 465 was reported by substitute by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Steve Carter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Norton, Pierre, Pope, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 606 by Representative Havard

Representative Terry Landry announced that action on House Bill No. 606, which increases charges and clarifies contract requirements relative to public license tag agents, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 496 by Representative Norton

Representative Norton presented House Bill No. 496, which provides with respect to special license plates for firefighters with twenty years of service.

Representative Terry Landry offered amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Remove active, full-time professional firefighters from those eligible for the registration fee exemption.
3. Add a provision that requires those firefighters applying for the fee exemption to submit a certification from their retirement system attesting to their eligibility.

Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry

Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Norton, Pierre, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Mr. Jim Smith, fire department, 2702 Amelia, Shreveport, LA 71108, (318) 218-9690, spoke in support of House Bill No. 496.

Representative Pierre offered a motion to report House Bill No. 496 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 496 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Terry Landry, Terry Brown, Carpenter, Franklin, Gisclair, Hall, Hill, Norton, Pierre, Stefanski, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, and 2 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 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date approved: