

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2018 Regular Session
March 14, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Katrina R. Jackson
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative H. Bernard LeBas
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative J. Rogers Pope
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Julie Stokes
Representative Bob Hensgens, vice chairman
Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Marcus L. Hunter
Representative Helena N. Moreno

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bethany Blackson, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Felicie Jackson, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Nevonda Reed, division director
Robert LeGrande, page
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 45 by Representative Connick**

Representative Connick presented House Bill No. 45, which requires third-party logistics providers to obtain controlled dangerous substance licenses.

Malcolm Broussard, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, 3388 Brentwood Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-6481, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 45.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to report House Bill No. 45 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 45 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Horton, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 0 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 109 by Representative Hoffmann

Representative Hoffmann presented House Bill No. 109, which re-creates the Department of Children and Family Services.

Marketa Walters, Department of Children and Family Services, 627 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-5573, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 109.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to report House Bill No. 109 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 109 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Horton, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 150 by Representative LeBas

Representative LeBas presented House Bill No. 150, which authorizes the La. Board of Pharmacy to waive license and certification renewal fees for military spouses.

Marketa Walters, Department of Children and Family Services, 627 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-5573, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 150.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 150 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 150 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 151 by Representative LeBas

Representative LeBas presented House Bill No. 151, which revises the definition of "approved college of pharmacy" as used in the La. Pharmacy Practice Act.

Representative LeBas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 151 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 151 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 0 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 546 by Representative LeBas

Representative LeBas presented House Bill No. 546, which amends provisions of law regarding emergency medical response vehicles.

Curry Landry, La. Ambulance Alliance, 301 Main St, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 663-7758, spoke in support of House Bill No. 546.

Mark Majors, Med Express Ambulance Service, 505 Church St, Melville, LA 71353, spoke in support of House Bill No. 546.

Representative Pope offered amendments which:

1. Require that the list of equipment for emergency medical response vehicles be based on recommendations from the Health Standards Subcommittee of the La. Ambulance Alliance.
2. Add that the La. Dept. of Health shall distribute the list of required medical and safety equipment to every ambulance service within thirty days of adoption, and within thirty days of every subsequent adoption.
3. Make technical corrections.

Representative Pope offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Pope offered a motion to report House Bill No. 546 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 546 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 154 by Representative Magee

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 154, which provides relative to access to certain information for purposes of child support enforcement.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 154 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 154 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Dustin Miller, Pope, Richard, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 326 by Representative Hensgens

Representative Hensgens presented House Bill No. 326, which make technical corrections to various provisions of law within the purview of the legislative committees on health and welfare.

Representative Hensgens offered amendments, which make corrections in present law consistent with the provisions of proposed law, and make technical and conforming changes.

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

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to report House Bill No. 326 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 326 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Pope, Richard, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 0 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 156 by Representative Bacala

Representative Bacala presented House Bill No. 156, which provides relative to the task force on coordination of Medicaid fraud detection and prevention initiatives.

Representative Stokes offered a motion to report House Bill No. 156 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 156 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Pope, Richard, Stagni, Stokes, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 182 by Representative Johnson

Representative Johnson presented House Bill No. 182, which provides relative to the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Karen Hallstrom, Louisiana State Law Institute, Paul M. Herbert Law Center, Room W127, University Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, no phone number provided, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 182.

Marketa Walters, Department of Children and Family Services, 627 N. 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-5572, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 182.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments, which add to the voluntary transfer of custody form a question regarding if a child is an Indian child for the purpose of complying with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act and make technical corrections.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 182 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 182 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Pope, Stagni, Stokes, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 520 by Representative Johnson

Representative Johnson presented House Bill No. 520, which provides relative to disclosure of information in the state central registry of reports of child abuse and neglect.

Mona Michelli, Department of Children and Family Services, 627 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-6827, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 520.

Representative Johnson offered amendments which:

1. Remove language requiring the La. Dept. of Children and Family Services to promulgate rules regarding the release of child abuse or neglect reports in the central registry.
2. Provide that the La. Dept. of Children and Family Services release confidential information involving child abuse or neglect investigations to other states' child welfare agencies upon written request.

Representative Johnson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 520 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 520 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Stokes, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 445 by Representative Stokes

Representative Stokes presented House Bill No. 445, which provides relative to the Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners.

Carla Seyler, International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals, P.O. Box 7651, Metairie, LA 70010, (504) 615-0907, spoke in support of House Bill No. 445.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 445 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 445 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Stokes, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 371 by Representative Chaney

Representative Chaney presented House Bill No. 371, which provides relative to reporting of child abuse and neglect.

Rhenda Hodnett, Department of Children and Family Services, 627 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-4044, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 371.

Representative Chaney offered amendments which:

1. Delete proposed law authorizing mandatory reporters and permitted reporters of suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to report such cases by phone to any state child welfare office of the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS).
2. Revise present law to delete a requirement that a mandatory reporter who reports in oral form initially shall submit a written report within five days to the local child protection unit of DCFS, and to require instead that the mandatory reporter submit the written report via the DCFS Mandated Reporter Portal or by mail to the DCFS centralized intake unit.
3. Make technical changes.

Representative Chaney offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 371 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 371 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 443 by Representative Smith

Representative Smith presented House Bill No. 443, which provides with respect to reporting requirements for a victim of a sexually-oriented criminal offense.

Morgan Lamandre, Sexual Trauma Awareness & Response, 5615 Corporate Blvd, Ste 200, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 615-7093, spoke in support of House Bill No. 443.

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to report House Bill No. 443 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 443 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 535 by Representative Smith

Representative Smith presented House Bill No. 535, which provides for changes relative to the Louisiana Commission on HIV, AIDS, and Hepatitis C.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill, which changes the name of the commission to "La. Commission on HIV/AIDS Education, Prevention, and Treatment", and decreases the number of members from 36 to 27.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the substitute bill was adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 535 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 535 was reported by substitute by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 620 by Representative Gary Carter

Representative Gary Carter presented House Bill No. 620, which requires the office of vital records to share data regarding veterans.

Representative Cox offered amendments, which provide that the state registrar of vital records may submit data related to deaths of veterans directly to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in determining the eligibility of veterans benefits.

Representative Cox offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Devin George, State Registrar, Louisiana Department of Health Office of Vital Records, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 620.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments, which make technical changes.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 620 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 620 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 0 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 527 by Representative Stagni

Representative Stagni presented House Bill No. 527, which revises certain provisions of the Safe Haven Law.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments, which make technical changes.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Mona Michelli, Department of Children and Family Services, 627 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-6827, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 527.

Chad Major, Professional Fire Fighters Association of LA, 804 Merle Gustafson, Baton Rouge, LA 70807, (225) 572-8483, spoke in support of House Bill No. 527.

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to report House Bill No. 527 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 527 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Cox, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Approval of 2017 House Committee on Health and Welfare Meeting Minutes.

No action was taken.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Frank A. Hoffmann
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: