

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2018 Regular Session
March 21, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Marcus L. Hunter
Representative Katrina R. Jackson
Representative Robert A. Johnson
Representative H. Bernard LeBas
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Helena N. Moreno
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Julie Stokes
Representative Bob Hensgens, vice chairman
Representative Frank A. Hoffmann, chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative J. Rogers Pope

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bethany Blackson, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Felicie Jackson, secretary
Nevonda Reed, division director

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms
Michaela Wells, sergeant at arms
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. OTHER BUSINESS

Approval of 2017 Committee Minutes

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to approve of the 2017 Regular Session committee meeting minutes. Without objection, the committee meeting minutes were approved by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Jackson, LeBas, Richard, Stagni, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

IV. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 325 by Representative Gisclair**

Representative Gisclair presented House Bill No. 325, which establishes a permit fee for milk, dairy farms, and milk processing plants.

Justin Gremillion, Louisiana Department of Health Sanitarian Services, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 325.

Melinda Richard, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 325.

Commissioner Mike Strain, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, 5825 Florida Blvd Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 342-7270, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 325.

Representative Richard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 325 favorably, to which Representative Bagley objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 325 was reported favorably by a vote of 6 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Chaney, Jackson, LeBas, Richard, Stagni, and Hoffmann voted yea. Representatives Bagley, Horton, and Hensgens voted nay.

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. 681 by Representative Leger

Representative Hoffmann announced that action on House Bill No. 681, which revises license fee amounts for facilities and providers licensed by the Louisiana Department of Health, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 421 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 421, which provides for the licensing of acupuncturists.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments which:

1. Clarify the certification requirements for licensed acupuncturists to be that the individual:
 - (a) Holds active status with the National Certification Commission of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM).
 - (b) Has successfully passed the certification examination, including the Biomedicine portion of the examination, given by the NCCAOM.
2. Delete provision authorizing certification of an individual who has graduated from a training program approved by the La. State Board of Medical Examiners.

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, Horton, Jackson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Richard, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Dr. Vincent Culotta, Jr., Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, 630 Camp St, New Orleans, LA 70310, (504) 568-6816, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 421.

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to report House Bill No. 421 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 421 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, Dustin Miller, Richard, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 577 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 577, which provides relative to disclosure of certain vital records to organ procurement organizations.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments which:

1. Add that the organ procurement organizations shall transmit their written request by telefax, electronic delivery, or by United States mail.
2. Add the information required for the written request by an organ procurement organization contain the following:
 - (a) The organization's name and citation to the United States Department of Health and Human Services website or correspondence evidencing its designation as an organ procurement organization for the state.
 - (b) The donor's name.
 - (c) The donor's date of birth.
 - (d) The donor's date of death.
 - (e) The requestor's name.
 - (f) The requestor's telephone number.
 - (g) The requestor's date of request.
 - (h) A request that the certified copy be transmitted by telefax, electronic delivery, or by United States mail.
3. Add that the organ procurement organization's written request, together with the documentation of a donor's anatomical gift, is sufficient proof for the release of the death certificate.
4. Add that if the organ procurement organization's requested form of transmittal is by telefax or electronic delivery, the death certificate shall be accompanied by the state registrar's verification that the death certificate is a duplicate of the original, the date the copy of the death certificate was issued by the state registrar's representative, along with his signature and title.

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 Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Richard, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Rob Rieger, Adams and Reese, LLP, 450 Laurel St, Ste 1900, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 336-5200, spoke in support of House Bill No. 577.

Kelly Ranum, Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency, 3501 N I-10 Service Rd W, Ste 300, Metairie, LA 70002, (504) 837-3355, spoke in support of House Bill No. 577.

Michelle Cavett, Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency, 3501 N I-10 Service Rd W, Ste 300, Metairie, LA 70002, (504) 837-3355, spoke in support of House Bill No. 577.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 577 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 577 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Hunter, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Moreno, Richard, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 658 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 658, which provides for a pilot project to improve outcomes associated with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

Representative Hoffmann offered amendments, which change "Perinatal Commission" to "La. Commission on Perinatal Care and Prevention of Infant Mortality", and add language making the neonatal opiate withdrawal syndrome pilot project subject to specific appropriation by the legislature.

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 Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Jackson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Richard, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Dr. Rebekah Gee, secretary, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 658.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to report House Bill No. 658 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 658 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Hunter, Jackson, Johnson, LeBas, Dustin Miller, Moreno, Richard, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support, 0 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 539 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 539, which provides for an expedited licensing process and associated fees for facilities and providers licensed by the La. Department of Health.

Dr. Rebekah Gee, secretary, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 539.

Cecile Castello, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 539.

Charles Castille, Rural Hospital Coalition, 450 Laurel St, Ste 1880, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 389-9429, spoke in support of House Bill No. 539.

Joseph Pearson, The Golden Rule Care Provider, 2214 Grand Point Rd, Breaux Bridge, LA 70517, (337) 332-4005, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 539.

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to report House Bill No. 539 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 539 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Horton, Hunter, Dustin Miller, Richard, 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. 479 by Representative LeBas

Chairman Hoffmann announced that action on House Bill No. 479, which requires the Louisiana Department of Health to present an annual report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget on efforts to encourage expansion and development of FQHC's, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 396 by Representative Stagni

Representative Stagni presented House Bill No. 396, which increases individual sewage fees imposed by the office of public health.

Dr. Rebekah Gee, secretary, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 396.

Michael Vidrine, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 396.

Michelle Alletto, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 N 4th St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 396.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 396 favorably, to which Representative Horton objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 396 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Chaney, Hunter, Dustin Miller, Moreno, Richard, Stagni, and Hoffmann voted yea. Representatives Horton and Hensgens voted nay.

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. 296 by Representative Abramson

Representative Abramson presented House Bill No. 296, which provides relative to the John J. Hainkel, Jr. Home and Rehabilitation Center.

Representative Hensgens is in the chair.

Representative Hensgens offered a motion to report House Bill No. 296 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 296 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Chaney, Horton, Hunter, Dustin Miller, Moreno, Richard, Stagni, and Hensgens voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 0 in support, 0 in opposition, and 3 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 633 by Representative Hunter

Representative Hunter presented House Bill No. 633, which requires lead water testing for public facilities.

Representative Hoffmann is in the chair.

Representative Bagley offered amendments, which require that water testing be performed on all community water systems, rather than on all water supplies accessible by the public in state-owned, state-operated, or state-licensed facilities.

Representative Bagley 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, Horton, Hunter, Dustin Miller, Richard, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Tyler Gray, La. Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association, 730 N Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 387-3205, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 633.

Representative Hunter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 633 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 633 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Chaney, Horton, Hunter, Dustin Miller, Richard, Stagni, Stokes, Hensgens, and Hoffmann voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, 1 in opposition, and 0 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

The committee stood at ease at 10:56 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:59 a.m.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Frank A. Hoffmann
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: