

House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2019 Regular Session
May 16, 2019

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 9:00 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 Mary DuBuisson
Representative Stephen C. Dwight
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Cedric B. Glover
Representative Mike Huval, vice chairman
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Barbara M. Norton
Representative Stephen E. Pugh
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Paula P. Davis
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Mark Wright

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tina Righteous, attorney
Valarie Banks, secretary
David Gauthier, legislative analyst
Lisa Lovello, legislative analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Tyler Broussard, clerk
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 18 by Senator Hensgens

Senator Hensgens presented Senate Bill No. 18, which authorizes the governing authority of Acadia Parish to elect a secretary-treasurer.

Representative Huval offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 18 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 18 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Marcelle, Pugh, Stagni, and White voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 142 by Senator Hensgens

Senator Hensgens presented Senate Bill No. 142, which authorizes the governing authority for the city of Abbeville to submit a sales tax proposition to its electors to fund salary raises for its full-time employees.

Ike Funderburk, city of Abbeville, P.O. Box 1170, Abbeville, LA 70510-1170, (337) 858-4285, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 142.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 142 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 142 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Norton, Pugh, Smith, and Stagni voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 50 by Senator Fannin

On behalf of Senator Fannin, Joe Salter, office of the secretary of state, no address given, Baton Rouge, LA, presented Senate Bill No. 50, which provides relative to the petition for incorporation.

Representative Norton offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 50 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 50 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, and Stagni voted yea.

House Resolution No. 143 by Representative Jimmy Harris

Representative Jimmy Harris presented House Resolution No. 143, which urges the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans to study and report on the prevalence of lead user service lines in its drinking water distribution system.

Representative Huval offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Resolution No. 143. Without objection, action on House Resolution No. 143 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, Smith, and Stagni voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 553 by Representative Jimmy Harris

Representative Jimmy Harris presented House Bill No. 553, which provides relative to the Lower Ninth Ward Economic Development District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Bouie offered amendments to add provisions changing the qualifications of board members. Representative Bouie 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, DuBuisson, Dwight, Huval, Lyons, Marcelle, Norton, Pugh, and Stagni voted yea.

Willie L. Calhoun, Lower Ninth Ward, 2125 Delery Street, New Orleans, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 553.

James Marchand, 607 Caffin Avenue, New Orleans, LA, (225) 279-1987, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 553.

Pierre Roberts, L9 Economic Development Group, no address given, (504) 609-7924, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 553.

Linda Marchand, L9 Economic Committees, 607 Caffin Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117, (504) 812-4660, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 553.

Burnell Cotlon, Lower 9th Ward New Orleans, 2036 Caffin Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 553.

William P. Waiters, 5005 Dauphine Street, New Orleans, LA, (504) 862-8380, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 553.

Representative Bouie offered a motion to report House Bill No. 553 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 553 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Lyons, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 92 by Senator Mills

Senator Mills presented Senate Bill No. 92, which provides relative to the board of commissioners of the Iberia Parish Hospital Service District No. 1.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 92 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 92 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Bouie, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Lyons, Norton, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, 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. 35 by Senator Hewitt

Senator Hewitt presented Senate Bill No. 35, which provides for the change in name of the Northshore Harbor Center District.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 35 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 35 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Lyons, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 165 by Senator Colomb

Senator Colomb presented Senate Bill No. 165, which provides relative to promotional and competitive tests provided by municipal fire and police civil service boards.

Chad Major, Professional Fire Fighters Association, 8011 Merle Gustafson, Baton Rouge, LA 70812, (225) 572-8483, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 165.

Representative Berthelot offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 165 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 165 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Lyons, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, and White 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.

Senate Bill No. 237 by Senator Colomb

Senator Colomb presented Senate Bill No. 237, which provides relative to certain tax increment financing districts.

Robert Day, R.W. Day Associates, 4005 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 709-5410, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 237.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 237 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 237 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Lyons, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 96 by Senator Bishop

On behalf of Senator Bishop, Representative Bouie presented Senate Bill No. 96, which provides for membership of the board of commissioners for the Gentilly Development District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 96 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 96 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Glover, Huval, Lyons, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58 by Senator Bishop

On behalf of Senator Bishop, Representative Bouie presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58, which requests that the mayor and the City Council of the city of New Orleans study the rate of evictions in New Orleans including causes.

Representative Pugh offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, DuBuisson, Dwight, Glover, Huval, Lyons, Pugh, Smith, Stagni, and White voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 81 by Senator Carter

Senator Carter presented Senate Bill No. 81, which provides relative to definition of fire employee.

Chad Major, Professional Fire Fighters Association, 8011 Merle Gustafson, Baton Rouge, LA 70812, (225) 572-8483, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 81.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 81 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 81 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Lyons, Pugh, Smith, and Stagni 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

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Berthelot announced the next meeting of the committee as Wednesday, May 22, 2019.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Pugh offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Berthelot, Billiot, Bouie, Dwight, Edmonds, Glover, Huval, Lyons, Pugh, Smith, and Stagni voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: