

## **House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs**

Minutes of Meeting  
2020 Regular Session  
May 6, 2020

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

Representative Stephen C. Dwight, chairman of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Stephen C. Dwight, chairman  
Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV  
Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.  
Representative Royce Duplessis, vice chairman  
Representative Les Farnum  
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry  
Representative Charles Alexander Henry  
Representative Valarie Hodges  
Representative Dodie Horton  
Representative Barry Ivey  
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.  
Representative Michael T. Johnson  
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe  
Representative Tanner D. Magee  
Representative Candace N. Newell  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative Malinda B. White

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

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

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst  
Lorriane Lucas, attorney  
Rosalie Ammersbach, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms  
Stephan Louis, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Bill No. 481 by Representative Magee**

Representative Magee presented House Bill No. 481, which requires uniform reporting by entities that assess, collect, or receive revenue from pre- or post-adjudication costs, fines, and fees.

Representative Magee offered a motion to report House Bill No. 481 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 481 was reported favorably by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

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

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 1 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

**House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 by Representative Miguez**

Representative Miguez presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 58, which suspends certain provisions of Title 29 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes relative to the governor's authority to declare an emergency, disaster, or public health emergency.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments to:

1. Except as otherwise summarized, remove provisions for suspension of present law providing for:
  - a. The governor's authority to declare a disaster, emergency, or public health emergency and his powers under a declared disaster or emergency.

- b. The authority of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness to coordinate the activities of all agencies and organizations for homeland security and emergency preparedness and the general authority and duties of the office with respect to disasters, emergencies, and public health emergencies.
- c. Public health emergency planning.

Angelique Freel, Louisiana Department of Justice, 1885 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 326-6000, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 58.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Schamerhorn objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas, 4 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Henry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, and White voted yea. Representatives Gadberry, Hodges, Horton, and Schamerhorn voted nay. Representative Dwight abstained.

Constance Zimmermann, 2453 Taffy Drive, Kenner, LA 70065, (504) 259-6660, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 58.

Representative Danny McCormick, House District 1, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 58.

Matthew Block, office of the governor, no address provided, spoke in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution No. 58.

Tom Davis, 209 South General Pershing Street, Hammond, LA 70403, (985) 502-2368, spoke in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution No. 58.

Representative Tammy Phelps, House District 3, spoke in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution No. 58.

James Waskom, Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, 7667 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 925-7345, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 58.

Dr. Courtney Phillips, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 58.

Dr. Alex Billioux, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 58.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 with amendments, to which Representative Jenkins objected. No vote was taken on the motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 with amendments.

Representative LaCombe offered a substitute motion to defer House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 until the next meeting, which was scheduled for May 13, 2020, to which Representative Horton objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 7 yeas, 9 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Newell, and White voted yea. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Magee, and Schamerhorn voted nay. Representative Dwight abstained.

The original motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 with amendments was considered. The motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 58 with amendments passed by a vote of 9 yeas, 7 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Magee, and Schamerhorn voted yea. Representatives Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Newell, and White voted nay. Representative Dwight abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, 3 in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 7 in support, and 13 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to implement the two minute rule, to which Representative Ivey objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas, 3 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Hodges, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea. Representatives Henry, Horton, and Ivey voted nay. Representative Dwight abstained.

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 30 by Representative Dwight**

Representative Dwight presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 30, which suspends certain provisions of law relative to the time by which a voter must be registered as affiliated with a particular political party to be eligible to vote for candidates for membership on that party's committees.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 30. Without objection, action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 30 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 755 by Representative Jordan**

On behalf of Representative Jordan, Representative Dwight presented House Bill No. 755, which provides an ethics exception to allow legislators, statewide elected officials, specified public servants, immediate family members, and related legal entities to enter into contracts to be a public defender.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 755. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 755 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

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

#### **House Bill No. 798 by Representative Dwight**

Representative Dwight presented House Bill No. 798, which authorizes public bodies to allow members to participate and vote electronically during certain states of emergency subject to certain conditions.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to report House Bill No. 798 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 798 was reported favorably by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Hodges, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, 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.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 1 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 497 by Representative Ivey**

Representative Ivey presented House Bill No. 497, which requires each auditee in state government to provide the legislative auditor with direct access to data.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 497. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 497 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, and Schamerhorn 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.

#### **House Bill No. 636 by Representative Ivey**

Representative Ivey presented House Bill No. 636, which creates and provides for the Joint Legislative Committee on Technology and Cybersecurity.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 636. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 636 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

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

#### **House Bill No. 685 by Representative Ivey**

Representative Ivey presented House Bill No. 685, which provides relative to interagency data sharing.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 685. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 685 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Magee, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

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

#### **House Bill No. 868 by Representative Ivey**

Representative Ivey presented House Bill No. 868, which provides relative to the continuity of the legislature in times of emergency or disaster.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report House Bill No. 868 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 868 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 1 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 6 by Representative Gregory Miller**

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Bill No. 6, which provides relative to reports by executive branch agencies.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report House Bill No. 6 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 6 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, 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.

**House Bill No. 486 by Representative Gregory Miller**

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Bill No. 486, which provides standards for the counting and tabulation of irregularly marked paper ballots.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 486. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 486 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

**House Bill No. 110 by Representative Gregory Miller**

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Bill No. 110, which provides relative to methods of service of process regarding actions objecting to candidacy and contesting an election.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to report House Bill No. 110 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 110 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

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

**House Bill No. 248 by Representative Harris**

On behalf of Representative Harris, R. Kyle Ardoin, secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, presented House Bill No. 248, which provides relative to overtime compensation of Department of State employees for election-related activities during certain time periods.

Representative Dwight offered a motion to report House Bill No. 248 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 248 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

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

**House Bill No. 81 by Representative Turner**

Representative Turner presented House Bill No. 81, which provides an exception to allow immediate family members of a coach of a collegiate athletic program to be employed on the staff of that program.

Kathleen M. Allen, Louisiana Board of Ethics/Ethics Administration Program, P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 219-5600, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 81.

Representative Magee offered a motion to report House Bill No. 81 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 81 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, 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.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.



## VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Magee offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Dwight, Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Henry, Horton, Ivey, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Magee, Newell, Schamerhorn, and White voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Royce Duplessis", written over a horizontal line.

Vice Chairman Royce Duplessis  
House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: October 7, 2020