

House Committee on Commerce

Minutes of Meeting
2021 Regular Session
May 26, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Paula P. Davis, chairwoman of the House Committee on Commerce, called the meeting to order at 11:14 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Paula P. Davis, chairwoman
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Royce Duplessis
Representative Brett F. Geymann
Representative Jonathan Goudeau, I
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Stephanie Hilferty, vice chairwoman
Representative Edmond Jordan
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Scott McKnight
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver
Representative Polly Thomas

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Bryan Fontenot
Representative Paul Hollis
Representative Candace N. Newell

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Halie Guidry, legislative analyst
Charlotte Cravins, attorney
Allie King, committee administrative assistant
Nevonda Reed, division director

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 209 by Senator Smith**

Senator Smith presented Senate Bill No. 209, which provides relative to horse racing including historical horse racing.

Senator Patrick Cortez, Louisiana State Senate, Office of the President, 900 North St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-2040, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 209.

Representative Davis offered amendments to:

- (1) Provide definitions for "account wagering carrier", "historical racing", "races" or "racing", "simulcast" or "simulcast racing", "source market area", and "source market commission".
- (2) Change the definition of "account wagering" to allow an individual to deposit money in an account with an account wagering carrier in addition to a licensee.
- (3) Change the definition of "account wagering" to allow the account balance to pay for pari-mutuel wagers on live, simulcast, or historic races.
- (4) Remove the commission to adopt rules regulating account wagering on live, simulcast, or historical races.
- (5) Remove the requirement that the commission shall authorize account wagering in a certain situation and instead permits the commission to authorize all forms of account wagering in the same direction.
- (6) Allow the commission to authorize an account wagering carrier to conduct account wagering on historical racing if certain criteria are met.
- (7) Provide that the fee paid by a facility authorize to conduct account wagering applies to both live and simulcast races.
- (8) Require the commission to authorize and set the source market commission to be paid by the carrier for an account wagering carrier conducting historical racing.

Representative Davis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Geymann, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, McKnight, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 209 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 209 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Geymann, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, McKnight, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 204 by Senator Cortez

Senator Cortez presented Senate Bill No. 204, which provides for live racing dates and minimum number of races per day to be assigned by the Louisiana State Racing Commission.

Representative Davis offered amendments to:

- (1) Repeal a provision of present law that requires Louisiana State Racing Commission (LSRC) to place on its agenda any written report made by the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association 1993, Inc., which is submitted no later than ten business days before a properly noticed meeting of the commission.
- (2) Replace an illustrative list of circumstances which authorize LSRC to amend an application with a requirement that LSRC make every effort to reduce conflicting or overlapping live race meeting dates.
- (3) Provide that only provisions of Section 1 of proposed law shall apply to race meetings held on or after October 1, 2021.
- (4) Make technical changes.

Representative Davis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Geymann, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, McKnight, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Goudeau offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 204 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 204 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Davis, Cox, Geymann, Goudeau, Green, Hilferty, McKnight, St. Blanc, and Tarver 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. 43 by Senator Peacock

Senator Peacock presented Senate Bill No. 43, which provides for the regulation of certain advertisements for legal services.

Senator Peacock presented a PowerPoint presentation to the committee on the committee room laptop. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was not submitted to the committee for inclusion in the record.

Mr. Pete Martinez, Louisiana Coalition for Common Sense, 1155 Aberdeen Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 252-5362, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 43.

Ms. Karen Eddlemon, Louisiana Coalition for Common Sense, 521 Laurel St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 335-5443, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 43.

The meeting stood at ease at 12:02 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 12:10 p.m.

No action was taken on Senate Bill No. 43 due to the lack of a quorum.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support and 1 in opposition.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Davis announced the meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairwoman Paula P. Davis
House Committee on Commerce

Date adopted: