

House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
May 5, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Jack G. McFarland, chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development, called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Jack G. McFarland, chairman
Representative Dustin Miller, vice chairman
Representative Ryan Bourriaque
Representative Kendrick "Ken" Brass
Representative Rhonda Gaye Butler
Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel
Representative Adrian Fisher
Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Wayne McMahan
Representative Troy D. Romero
Representative Larry Selders
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Christopher Turner
Representative William "Bill" Wheat, Jr.
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Marcus Anthony Bryant
Representative Buddy Mincey, Jr.
Representative Francis C. Thompson

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nicholas Cole, attorney
Brandy Phillips, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 1049 by Representative Seabaugh

Representative Seabaugh presented House Bill No. 1049, which authorizes the creation of Louisiana timber and agriculture transportation group self-insurance funds and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative McFarland offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative McFarland offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives McFarland, Bourriaque, Brass, Butler, Deshotel, Travis Johnson, McCormick, McMahan, Romero, Selders, St. Blanc, Turner, Wheat, and White voted yea.

Stewart Geurin, Department of Insurance, 1702 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, L 70802, (225) 219-3929, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1049.

Toni McAllister, Louisiana Loggers Association, 208 Shady Hills Lane, Winnfield, LA 71483, (318) 729-1726, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1049.

Representative Selders offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1049 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 1049 was reported by substitute by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives McFarland, Bourriaque, Brass, Butler, Fisher, Travis Johnson, McCormick, McMahan, Romero, Selders, St. Blanc, Turner, Wheat, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 373 by Representative Travis Johnson

Representative Travis Johnson presented House Bill No. 373, which provides for the Delta Agriculture Research and Sustainability District and provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Romero offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Romero offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives McFarland, Bourriaque, Brass, Butler,

Fisher, Travis Johnson, McCormick, McMahan, Romero, Selders, St. Blanc, Turner, Wheat, and White voted yea.

Mayor Buz Craft, Town of Vidalia, P.O. Box 2010, Vidalia, LA 71373, (601) 807-3298, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 373.

Representative McFarland offered a motion to report House Bill No. 373 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 373 was reported by substitute by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives McFarland, Bourriaque, Brass, Butler, Fisher, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Romero, Selders, St. Blanc, Turner, Wheat, and White voted yea.

House Resolution No. 89 by Representative Geymann

On behalf of Representative Geymann, Representative McFarland presented House Resolution No. 89, which urges and requests the local governing authority of Calcasieu Parish and the Calcasieu Parish Animal Services and Adoption Center to become a "no kill" animal shelter.

Representative McFarland offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 89 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 89 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives McFarland, Dustin Miller, Bourriaque, Brass, Butler, Fisher, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Romero, Selders, St. Blanc, Turner, Wheat, and White voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 100 by Representative McFarland

Representative McFarland presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 100, which urges and requests the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service to establish a cost-share program to assist landowners and producers with the purchase and application of lime for enhancement of crop and grass production.

Commissioner Mike Strain, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, 5825 Florida Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 522-1233, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 100.

Representative Selders offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 100 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 100 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives McFarland, Dustin Miller, Bourriaque, Brass, Butler, Fisher, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Selders, St. Blanc, Turner, Wheat, 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

Presentation by the Louisiana FFA State Officers

Peyton Little, Louisiana FAA State Association State President, and Parker Carlino, Louisiana FAA State Sentinel, addressed the committee and gave an overview of the Louisiana FFA. They provided a handout, Exhibit C, which is included in the committee records.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Bourriague offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives McFarland, Dustin Miller, Bourriague, Brass, Butler, Fisher, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Romero, Selders, St. Blanc, Turner, Wheat, and White voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Jack G. McFarland
House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development

Date adopted: