

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2022 First Extraordinary Session
February 7, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative John M. Stefanski, chairman of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative John M. Stefanski, chairman
Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV
Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel
Representative Royce Duplessis, vice chairman
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Michael T. Johnson
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Polly Thomas
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Valarie Hodges

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

John Harrington, clerk
Clarence Russ, sergeant at arms
Danny Leming, sergeant at arms
Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 11 by Representative Duplessis**

Representative Duplessis presented House Bill No. 11, which provides for the districts for the election of members to the House of Representatives.

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 11. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 11 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Magee, Newell, Thomas, 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.

Representative Magee in the chair.

House Bill No. 14 by Representative Schexnayder

Representative Schexnayder and Representative Stefanski presented House Bill No. 14, which provides for the districts for the election of members to the House of Representatives.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments to make changes to districts 18, 20, 22, 24, 29, 30, 58, 61, 62, 63, 81, and 88. Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Magee, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea.

Representative LaCombe offered amendments to make changes to districts 18 and 60. Representative LaCombe offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Magee, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea.

Representative Kenny R. Cox, House District No. 23, 209 North Hills Drive, Mansfield, LA 71052, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 14.

Representative Roy D. Adams, House District No. 62, P.O. Box 1440, Jackson, LA 70748, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 14.

Chris Kaiser, ACLU of Louisiana, 1340 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, (512) 740-1317, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 14.

Ashley Shelton, Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, 13929 Kimbleton Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 802-2435, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 14.

Will Harrell, VOTE, address illegible, New Orleans, LA 70116, (312) 695-7519, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 14.

Katie Bernhardt, Louisiana Democratic Party, P.O. Box 52309, Lafayette, LA 70503, (337) 278-8733, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 14.

Frankie Robertson, NOLA Maternal Child Health Coalition, P.O. Box 77084, Baton Rouge, LA 70879, (225) 247-7834, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 14.

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

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, and 3 in opposition. 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: 5 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 15 by Representative Jenkins

Representative Jenkins presented House Bill No. 15, which provides for the districts for the election of members to the House of Representatives.

Representative Magee offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 15. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 15 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, LaCombe, Lyons, Magee, Newell, Thomas, 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.

General Statements Received Regarding Redistricting

There were 4 statements submitted via email in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion of nominees submitted by the nominating committee for the vacancies on the Board of Ethics to be filled by the House of Representatives

Chairman Stefanski in the chair.

The committee discussed the following nominees submitted by the nominating committee for the vacancies on the Board of Ethics to be filled by the House of Representatives:

(Group A)

La Koshia Reconda Roberts - Incumbent
Christopher "Kim" Carver
Matthew Putfark
Cherrell Simms Taplin
Terry Lee Young

(House B)

Robert Warren Grand - Incumbent
Philip Caples
Mary Ann Coleman
Richard Washington
Jatavian Williams

Representative Ivey offered a motion to nominate Mary Ann Coleman, Group B, for the Board of Ethics vacancy, to which Representative Horton objected. Representative Horton offered a substitute motion to nominate Robert Warren Grand, Group B, for the Board of Ethics vacancy. The administrative assistant called the roll, and by a vote of 9 yeas and 5 nays, the committee nominated Robert Warren Grand, Group B. Representatives Beullieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representatives Stefanski, Wilford Carter, Deshotel, Duplessis, and Ivey voted nay.

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to nominate Cherrell Simms Taplin, Group A, for the Board of Ethics vacancy, to which Representative Lyons objected. Representative Lyons offered a substitute motion to nominate La Koshia Reconda Roberts, Group A, for the Board of Ethics vacancy. The administrative assistant called the roll, and by a vote of 11 yeas and 3 nays, the committee nominated La Koshia Reconda Roberts, Group B. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representatives Wilford Carter, Duplessis, and Ivey voted nay.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Stefanski announced that House Bill No. 14 by Representative Schexnayder would be scheduled for a committee hearing on February 8, 2022.

Representative Magee announced that House Bill No. 15 by Representative Jenkins would be scheduled for a committee hearing on February 8, 2022.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Wilford Carter offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Wilford Carter, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman John M. Stefanski
House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: March 17, 2022