

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
May 4, 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 9:04 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative John M. Stefanski, chairman
Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV
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 Candace N. Newell
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative Polly Thomas

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

John Harrington, clerk
Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 756 by Representative Schexnayder**

Representative Schexnayder presented House Bill No. 756, which provides relative to certain public buildings and grounds.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments that:

- (1) Provided for rental and lease agreements for the properties and for the deposit of those proceeds into the fund;
- (2) Provided for the office of lieutenant governor through the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism to coordinate with and work at the direction of the presiding officers for fiscal year 2022-23; and
- (3) Changed the effective date from signature of the governor to July 1, 2022.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, and White voted yea.

Jay Dardenne, Louisiana Division of Administration, no address provided, (225) 342-7000, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 756.

Matt Baker, Louisiana Division of Administration/Office of State Buildings, 1928 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-4789, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 756 and provided a handout, "OSB Current and Future Projects at Legislative Facilities", labeled Exhibit A in the committee records.

Representative Schexnayder played a video of various repairs needed at the Louisiana State Capitol and Pentagon Barracks, labeled Exhibit B in the committee records and also available on the House legislative website within the recording of this meeting.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to report House Bill No. 756 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 756 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Vice Chairman Duplessis in the chair.

House Bill No. 924 by Representative Edmonds

Representative Edmonds presented House Bill No. 924, which provides for post-election tabulation audits of paper records including absentee ballots.

Representative Duplessis offered amendments to provide for an effective date and implementation. Representative Duplessis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Representative Duplessis offered amendments to add requirement for the implementation of proposed law. Representative Duplessis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 924 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 924 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, and 3 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1056 by Representative Hodges

House Bill No. 1056 provides relative to persons permitted to register or vote.

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1056. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1056 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support, and 5 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 178 by Representative Villio

Representative Villio presented House Bill No. 178, a constitutional amendment that provides relative to the right to vote.

Kyle Ardoin, secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 178.

Representative Ivey offered amendments to amend the ballot language. Representative Ivey offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Woody Jenkins, 910 North Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 921-1433, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 178.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 178 with amendments, to which Representative LaCombe objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 178 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Mike Johnson, and White voted yea. Representatives Duplessis, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, and Newell voted nay.

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

House Bill No. 179 by Representative Wright

Representative Wright presented House Bill No. 179, a constitutional amendment that removes the line item veto power of the governor.

Representative LaCombe in the chair.

Chairman Stefanski in the chair.

Woody Jenkins, 910 North Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 921-1433, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 179.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to invoke the two-minute rule. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report House Bill No. 179 favorably, to which Representative Jenkins objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 179 was reported favorably by a vote of 6 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, and Horton voted yea. Representatives Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, and White voted nay.

House Bill No. 405 by Representative Wright

Representative Wright presented House Bill No. 405, which provides for calling a constitutional convention and preparations therefor.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments to change the makeup of the Planning and Drafting Committee. Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments to remove the prohibition on legislators serving as delegates to the convention. Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, LaCombe, Lyons, and Newell voted yea.

Ron J. Sapia, 110 Bourgeois Street, Raceland, LA 70394, (985) 859-7119, spoke in support of House Bill No. 405.

Woody Jenkins, Delegate Court's Convention of 1973, 910 North Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 921-1433, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 405.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to report House Bill No. 405 with amendments, to which Representative Jenkins objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, and Gadberry voted yea. Representatives Duplessis, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted nay.

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 for information only. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 390 by Representative Wright

Representative Wright presented House Bill No. 390, which provides relative to rules adopted under the Administrative Procedure Act.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments that:

- (1) Required certain rules to expire no later than June 30th following the second regular session following adoption unless the legislature authorized continued effectiveness by concurrent resolution;
- (2) Required legislative oversight hearings on rules;
- (3) Extended the time period for the oversight hearings;
- (4) Reduced the required minimum number of standing committee members on an oversight subcommittee from a majority to no less than three; and
- (5) Mandated agencies to notify all legislators via electronic mail of proposed rules.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Jay Dardenne, Louisiana Division of Administration, no address provided, (225) 342-7000, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 390.

Deidra Johnson, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, 602 North Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-4053, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 390.

Steve Russo, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 390.

Bob Wertz, Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, P.O. Box 3133, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 342-1667, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 390.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 390. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 390 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 48 by Representative Ivey

Representative Ivey presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 48, which provides for House and Senate standing committees to meet and function as joint committees to study the provisions of the state constitution and to make recommendations for revisions.

Ron J. Sapia, 110 Bourgeois Street, Raceland, LA 70394, (985) 859-7119, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 48.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 48 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 48 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

House Bill No. 145 by Representative Edmonston

House Bill No. 145 provides relative to rule making procedure.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 145. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 145 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, 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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

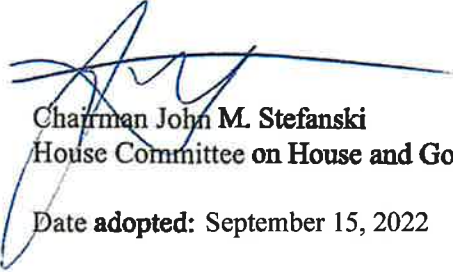
There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Newell offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and White voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John M. Stefanski', is written over the typed name and title.

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

Date adopted: September 15, 2022