

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
May 18, 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 Polly Thomas

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative Malinda B. White

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
Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 34 by Senator Fred Mills**

Senator Fred Mills presented Senate Bill No. 34, which allows advisory committees of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners to meet using electronic platforms.

Terrie Thomas, Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, 630 Camp Street, no city or state provided, (504) 568-1082, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 34.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 34 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 34 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas 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.

Senate Bill No. 35 by Senator Fred Mills

Senator Fred Mills presented Senate Bill No. 35, which names the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy building located in Baton Rouge the "Carl W. Aron Building".

Representative Duplessis offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 35 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 35 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas 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.

Senate Bill No. 67 by Senator Fred Mills

Senator Fred Mills presented Senate Bill No. 67, which provides for the reorganization and modernization of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Representative Stefanski offered technical amendments. Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments to remove proposed changes to the scope of review and the conduct of judicial review of adjudications. Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 67 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 67 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas 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.

Senate Bill No. 183 by Senator Fred Mills

Senator Fred Mills presented Senate Bill No. 183, which provides relative to transparency in the application process for any state-issued license or permit.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments that:

- (1) Added a provision of proposed law requiring each board or commission to include a link on its website to a nationwide licensing or registry system if the license or permit is applied for or issued through such a system; and
- (2) Added a provision of proposed law requiring each board or commission to provide a reasonable estimate on its website for the timeline for any license or permit applied for or issued through a nationwide licensing or registry system.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Horton offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 183 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 183 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas 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.

Senate Bill No. 279 by Senator Fred Mills

Senator Fred Mills presented Senate Bill No. 279, which names the public building located in Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge the "J. Burton Angelle Building".

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 279 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 279 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 135 by Senator Boudreaux

Senator Boudreaux presented Senate Bill No. 135, which provides relative to Military Family Assistance Fund applications.

Lani Durio, Louisiana Department of Veteran Affairs, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-5000, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 135.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 135 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 135 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas 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.

Senate Bill No. 281 by Senator Bernard

Senator Bernard presented Senate Bill No. 281, which authorizes disclosure of the name and address of a law enforcement officer who has qualified as a candidate for office.

Sherri W. Hadskey, office of Louisiana secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 281.

Scott Sternberg, Louisiana Press Association, no address provided, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 281.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 281 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 281 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 283 by Senator Bernard

Senator Bernard presented Senate Bill No. 283, which provides relative to submission of redistricting plans to the secretary of state.

Sherri W. Hadskey, office of Louisiana secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 283.

Heather Meyers, office of Louisiana secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 283.

Further action was taken by the committee on Senate Bill No. 283 at a later point in the meeting. Please check subsequent action to complete the record of discussion and motions on Senate Bill No. 283.

Senate Bill No. 478 by Senator Bernard

Senator Bernard presented Senate Bill No. 478, which provides relative to the public records law.

Scott Sternberg, Louisiana Press Association, 935 Gravier Street, Suite 2020, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 478.

Vice Chairman Duplessis in the chair.

Sarah Whittington, Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana, 4035 Washington Avenue, Suite 203, New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 322-4050, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 478.

Chairman Stefanski in the chair.

Representative Mike Johnson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 478 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 478 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support, 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: 5 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 283 by Senator Bernard

This is a continuation of the discussion on Senate Bill No. 283 from earlier in the meeting. Please check prior action to complete the record of discussion and motions on Senate Bill No. 283.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments that:

- (1) Clarified that the deadline is applicable to technical corrections to a redistricting plan of a local governing body; and
- (2) Changed the deadline for submission of technical corrections from the date the qualifying period opens to 10 days prior to the date the qualifying period opens.

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, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Mike Johnson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 283 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 283 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6 by Senator Cathey

Senator Cathey presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6, which creates a task force to study and make recommendations relative to tenure policies of public postsecondary education institutions.

Cami Geisman, University of Louisiana System, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-300, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 202-0870, spoke for information only on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6.

Representative Mike Johnson offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, and Newell 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.

Senate Bill No. 75 by Senator Fields

Senator Fields presented Senate Bill No. 75, a constitutional amendment to require Senate confirmation of certain members of the State Police Commission.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 75 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 75 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 160 by Senator Fields

Senator Fields presented Senate Bill No. 160, a constitutional amendment to require Senate confirmation for gubernatorially appointed members of the State Civil Service Commission.

Byron P. Decoteau, Jr., State Civil Service, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-8272, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 160.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 160 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 160 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 350 by Senator Cloud

Senator Cloud presented Senate Bill No. 350, which provides relative to elections.

Senator Cloud provided a handout of a sample ballot envelope, which is labeled Exhibit A in the committee records.

Mike Waguespack, Louisiana legislative auditor, P.O. Box 94397, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 339-3840, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 350.

Chris Magee, office of Louisiana legislative auditor, no address provided, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 339-3800, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 350.

Sherri W. Hadskey, office of Louisiana secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 350.

Representative Mike Johnson in the chair.

Chairman Stefanski in the chair.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 350 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 350 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, and 1 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: 1 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 144 by Senator Robert Mills

Senator Robert Mills presented Senate Bill No. 144, which provides relative to hand delivery of absentee by mail ballots.

Sherri W. Hadskey, office of Louisiana secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 144.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 144 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 144 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 947 by Representative Orgeron

Representative Orgeron presented House Bill No. 947, which prohibits an elected official who has retired or resigned from office from filling the vacancy his retirement or resignation created.

Representative LaCombe in the chair.

Representative LaCombe offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 947. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 947 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 441 by Senator Fesi

On behalf of Senator Fesi, Representative Orgeron presented Senate Bill No. 441, which prohibits a public officer who has retired or resigned from office from qualifying for the same office at a special election to fill the position.

Representative Newell offered amendments that:

- (1) Changed persons subject to proposed law from public officers to elected officials;
- (2) Removed proposed law providing that a person who retired or resigned from a Lawrason Act municipal governing authority could not be a candidate for any vacant position on the governing authority being filled prior to the next regular election; and
- (3) Changed the effective date.

Representative Newell offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 441 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 441 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 369 by Senator Harris

On behalf of Senator Harris, Nancy Landry, office of Louisiana secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, presented Senate Bill No. 369, which provides for compensation for certain election workers.

Sherri W. Hadskey, office of Louisiana secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 922-2880, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 369.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 369 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 369 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Ivey, Jenkins, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

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

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 14 by Senator Foil

On behalf of Senator Foil, Paul Rainwater, Louisiana Cyber Commission, 5117 Cheneau Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 281-8176, presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 14, which establishes the Cybersecurity Redhibition Task Force.

Representative LaCombe offered amendments to authorize the chairman of the House and Senate committees on homeland security to designate a member of the respective committee to serve on the task force. Representative LaCombe offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 14 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 14 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Horton, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 228 by Senator Morris

On behalf of Senator Morris, Scott Sternberg, Louisiana Press Association, no address provided, presented Senate Bill No. 228, which provides for immunity from suit for invasion of privacy.

Debbie Henton, Police Jury Association of Louisiana, 707 North 7th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 343-2897, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 228.

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 228 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 228 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas 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

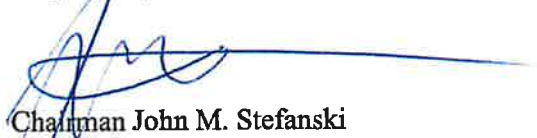
There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Thomas offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Mike Johnson, LaCombe, Lyons, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Date adopted: September 15, 2022