

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2021-2022 Interim
December 16, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative John M. Stefanski, chairman of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.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 Valarie Hodges
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Michael T. Johnson
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Polly Thomas
Representative Malinda B. White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative Tanner D. Magee

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

John Harrington, clerk
Daniel Leming, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

Lorriane Lucas, attorney for the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, discussed a summary of the sunset procedure from a Memorandum dated December 14, 2021, labeled Exhibit A in the committee records.

The recommendations from the Board of Ethics relative to suggestions for changes to the laws under the jurisdiction of the board

Kathleen M. Allen, Louisiana Board of Ethics, no witness card provided, discussed the recommendations from the Board of Ethics relative to suggestions for changes to the laws under the jurisdiction of the board and provided a handout, "2022 Proposed Legislative Recommendations by the Louisiana Board of Ethics", labeled Exhibit B in the committee records.

Sunset Review**Board of Ethics**

Kathleen M. Allen, Louisiana Board of Ethics/Ethics Administration Program, P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 219-5600, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the agency and discussed the sunset report labeled Exhibit C in the committee records.

Department of State Civil Service

Byron P. Decoteau, Jr., State Civil Service, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-8272, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the department and the State Civil Service Commission, and discussed the sunset report labeled Exhibit D in the committee records.

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

Board of Tax Appeals

Chairman Stefanski reviewed a letter sent by Judge Tony Graphia, chairman of the Board of Tax Appeals, which provided a brief overview of the agency, labeled Exhibit E in the committee records.

Division of Administrative Law

Emalie Boyce, Division of Administrative Law, P.O. Box 44033, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-1611, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the agency and discussed the sunset report labeled Exhibit F in the committee records.

Office of State Examiner

Adrienne T. Bordelon, office of state examiner, 8550 United Plaza, Suite 901, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-4416, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the agency and discussed the sunset report labeled Exhibit G in the committee records.

State Police Commission

Jason Hannaman, State Police Commission, 5825 Florida Boulevard, #1180, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 925-7057, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the agency and discussed the sunset report labeled Exhibit H in the committee records.

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

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to recreate the Department of State Civil Service and agencies for a period of four years. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Beaulieu, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Hodges, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea.

Department of State

Joe R. Salter, Department of State, no address provided, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 931-1209, introduced staff from each division within the Department of State who were there to discuss each division's operations and responsibilities and their section of the sunset report submitted by the Department of State, labeled Exhibit I in the committee records.

Thomas Carmody, Department of State, Museum Division, no address provided, (318) 470-5471, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the division and discussed the various state museums operated by the Department of State.

Catherine Newsome, Department of State, Louisiana State Archives, 3851 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 922-1000, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the state archives division operated by the Department of State.

Amanda Baker, Department of State, Commercial Division, 8585 Archives Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-4716, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the commercial division operated by the Department of State.

John Tobler, Department of State, Communications Division, 1016 Elmeer Avenue, Metairie, LA 70005, (225) 362-5111, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the communications division operated by the Department of State.

Sherri Wharton Hadskey, Department of State, Elections Division, 8585 Archives Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 916-6486, provided an overview of the duties, responsibilities, and operations of the elections division operated by the Department of State.

Kyle Ardoin, secretary of state, 8585 Archives Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA, 70809, (225) 922-2880, provided an overview of the Louisiana Department of State and commended staff on their efforts.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 for information only. 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 Duplessis offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Stefanski, Deshotel, Duplessis, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Newell, and Thomas voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: