

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
March 23, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman
Representative Roy Daryl Adams
Representative Robby Carter
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Raymond J. Crews
Representative Michael Charles Echols
Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Ed Larvadain, III
Representative Wayne McMahan
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen
Representative Thomas A. Pressly
Representative Larry Selders
Representative Christopher Turner, vice chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Jason Hughes
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Joseph A. Stagni

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Meah Johnson, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Kristy Neubrandner, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Representative Bryan Fontenot
Representative Greg Miller
Braley Trabeau, committee clerk
Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms
Nevonda Reed, division director

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 90 by Representative Marcelle**

Representative Marcelle presented House Bill No. 90, which creates the office on women's health within the La. Department of Health and provides for the duties and functions of the office.

Alma Stewart, Louisiana Center for Health Equity, P.O. Box 82637, Baton Rouge, LA 70884, (225) 772-7029, spoke in support of House Bill No. 90 and provided two handouts, Exhibit A and Exhibit B, which are included in the committee records.

Representative Crews offered an amendment to prohibit the office on women's health from utilizing any personnel or funding to promote abortion and coordinating with any entity that promotes abortion.

Representative Crews offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Turner in the chair.

Chairman Bagley in the chair.

Representative Dustin Miller offered a motion to report House Bill No. 90 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 90 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 13 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 149 by Representative Illg

Representative Illg presented House Bill No. 149, which provides relative to legal advisor services for the Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority.

Representative Echols offered a motion to report House Bill No. 149 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 149 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Echols, Larvadain, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Turner 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.

House Bill No. 197 by Representative Turner

Representative Turner presented House Bill No. 197, which provides relative to the comprehensive sports injury management program for student athletics.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report House Bill No. 197 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 197 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Crews, Echols, Larvadain, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Turner 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.

House Bill No. 314 by Representative Turner

Representative Turner presented House Bill No. 314, which makes technical corrections to various provisions of law within and relating to the subject matter of the legislative committees on health and welfare.

Representative Selders offered technical amendments. Representative Selders offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Crews, Echols, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Selders offered a motion to report House Bill No. 314 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 314 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Turner 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.

House Bill No. 497 by Representative Turner

Representative Turner presented House Bill No. 497, which exempts certain facilities that provide home dialysis drugs or devices from the provisions of the La. Pharmacy Practice Act.

Elizabeth Stoll, Baxter Healthcare, 3014 Greendale Drive, Atlanta, GA 30327, (404) 217-7618, spoke in support of House Bill No. 497.

Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 497 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 497 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Robert Owen, Pressly, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 717 by Representative McMahan

Representative McMahan presented House Bill No. 717, which provides relative to parishes eligible for the local healthcare provider participation program.

Representative McMahan offered an amendment to include within the definition of "rural institutional provider" provided in present law any licensed hospital, other than one defined as a rural hospital, that meets the location criteria provided in present law and proposed law, existed on Nov. 1, 2020, and has no more than 60 hospital beds. Representative McMahan offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, and Selders voted yea.

Representative Echols offered a motion to report House Bill No. 717 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 717 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, and Pressly voted yea.

House Bill No. 204 by Representative Gregory Miller

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Bill No. 204, which provides with respect to parties to whom the state registrar of vital records may issue a death certificate.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 204 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 204 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Turner in the chair.

House Bill No. 275 by Representative Bagley

Representative Bagley presented House Bill No. 275, which re-creates the Department of Children and Family Services.

Representative Echols offered a motion to report House Bill No. 275 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 275 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

Chip Coulter, Department of Children and Family Services, 627 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-5573, provided a handout, Exhibit C, which is included in the committee records.

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.

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.

House Bill No. 478 by Representative Fontenot

Representative Fontenot presented House Bill No. 478, which provides relative to the inspection of records for criminal bail bonds.

Steve Adams, Association of Louisiana Bail Underwriters, 217 Derbigny Street, Gretna, LA 70053, (225) 583-9333, spoke in support of House Bill No. 478.

Representative Echols offered a motion to report House Bill No. 478 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 478 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Robert Owen, Selders, and Turner 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

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the 2021 Regular Session dated April 22, April 27, April 28, May 4, May 5, May 12, May 18, May 19, May 25, and June 2 were presented to the committee for approval. Representative Pressly offered a motion to approve. Without objection, the minutes were approved by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Pressly, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

The minutes from the 2021 interim dated August 16, October 8, November 8, and December 6 were presented to the committee for approval. Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to approve. Without objection, the minutes were approved by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Pressly, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

The minutes from the 2022 1st Extraordinary Session dated February 16 were presented to the committee for approval. Representative Pressly offered a motion to approve. Without objection, the minutes were approved by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Robby Carter, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Pressly, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

Presentation of the 2022 Annual Report of the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee

Representative Rick Edmonds, House District 66, Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee (JMOC), 931 South Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 200, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 295-9240, provided an overview of the information contained in the 2022 Annual Report of the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee. A copy of this report, Exhibit D, is included in the committee records.

Representative William Wheat, House District 73, JMOC, P. O. Box 2473, Ponchatoula, LA 70454, (985) 386-7844, spoke to the committee about emergency preparedness, specifically within the context of nursing home evacuations.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Crews offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Adams, Robby Carter, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Robert Owen, Selders, and Turner voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: