

## **House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs**

Minutes of Meeting  
2022 Regular Session  
April 7, 2022

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Rick Edmonds, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Rick Edmonds, chairman  
Representative Mary DuBuisson  
Representative Les Farnum  
Representative Bryan Fontenot  
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg  
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry  
Representative Timothy P. Kerner  
Representative Rodney Lyons  
Representative Scott McKnight  
Representative Candace N. Newell  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative Joseph A. Stagni, vice chairman  
Representative Matthew Willard

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Cedric B. Glover  
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.  
Representative C. Denise Marcelle

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tina Righteous, attorney  
Alexandra Cravins, committee administrative assistant  
Valarie Banks, executive assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Hailey Austin, clerk  
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

**House Bill No. 647 by Representative Hilferty**

On behalf of Representative Hilferty, Representative Willard presented House Bill No. 647, which provides relative to the Mid-City Security District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Willard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 647 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 647 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 72 by Representative Magee**

On behalf of Representative Magee, Representative Fontenot presented House Bill No. 72, which provides relative to the board of commissioners of Terrebonne Parish Fire Protection District Number Six.

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 72 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 72 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 392 by Representative Hughes**

On behalf of Representative Hughes, Tyrell Morris, Orleans Parish Communication District, 118 City Park Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70119, (202) 607-4612, presented House Bill No. 392, which provides relative to employees of communications districts.

Bill Salmeron, New Orleans Emergency Medical Services, 2929 Earhart Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 250-2378, spoke in support of House Bill No. 392.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments that:

1. Made the bill applicable to employees who are emergency public safety telecommunicators rather than emergency response operators or emergency services dispatchers.
2. Made the bill permissive rather than mandatory.
3. Removed the definition of first responder.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Farnum offered a motion to report House Bill No. 392 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 392 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 216 by Representative Adams**

Representative Adams presented House Bill No. 216, which creates the Myrtle Hill Crime Prevention and Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Charles Duplechain, no address given, spoke in support of House Bill No. 216.

John LeBlanc, Myrtle Hill Homeowner's Association, 1420 Eagle Drive, Zachary, LA 70791, (225) 270-1118, spoke in support of House Bill No. 216.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 216 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 216 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 270 by Representative Stagni**

Representative Stagni presented House Bill No. 270, which provides for naming the Kenner council on aging building in Kenner after Mable Trepagnier Brown.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 270 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 270 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 699 by Representative LaCombe**

Representative LaCombe presented House Bill No. 699, which provides relative to compensation for members of the planning and zoning commission for the town of Addis.

Representative Willard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 699 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 699 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 152 by Representative Firment**

Representative Firment presented House Bill No. 152, which provides relative to the civil service status of employees of the Colfax Housing Authority. Representative Firment provided a handout, "Letter from The Colfax Housing Authority", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 152 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 152 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 147 by Representative Edmonds**

*Vice Chairman Stagni in the chair.*

Representative Edmonds presented House Bill No. 147, which provides relative to the naming of facilities that are part of St. George Fire Protection District No. 2.

Dustin Yates, St. George Firefighter's Foundation, 8738 Sharlane Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (504) 606-7328, spoke in support of House Bill No. 147.

Johnny Suchy, St. George Fire Protection District, 11735 Rue Baton, Baton Rouge LA, 70870, (225) 975-0700, spoke in support of House Bill No. 147.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 147 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 147 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 151 by Representative Edmonds**

Representative Edmonds presented House Bill No. 151, which creates the Old Jefferson Crime Prevention and Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Monty McNutt, Old Jefferson Neighborhood Association, 14925 Currency Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 978-0038, spoke in support of House Bill No. 151.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 151 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 151 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

*Chairman Edmonds in the chair.*

#### **House Bill No. 148 by Representative Freeman**

Representative Freeman presented House Bill No. 148, which creates the Bouligny Improvement District in Orleans Parish.

Evan Bergeron, Bouligny Improvement Association, 4891 Tchoupitoulas Street, New Orleans, LA 70115, (985) 518-3753, spoke in support of House Bill No. 148.

Representative Willard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 148 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 148 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 153 by Representative Freeman**

Representative Freeman presented House Bill No. 153, which provides relative to the Twinbrook Security District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Willard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 153 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 153 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 441 by Representative Stefanski**

On behalf of Representative Stefanski, Representative McKnight presented House Bill No. 441, which provides relative to the classified police service in the city of Rayne.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 441 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 441 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

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

**House Bill No. 235 by Representative McFarland**

Representative McFarland presented House Bill No. 235, which provides relative to the governing commission of the Jackson Parish Hospital Service District.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 235 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 235 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 572 by Representative Jordan**

Representative Jordan presented House Bill No. 572, which provides for the advertisement of condemned property.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 572 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 572 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 583 by Representative Bacala**

Representative Bacala presented House Bill No. 583, which provides relative to administrative services provided to certain entities in Ascension Parish.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 583 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 583 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Adoption of minutes from 2021 Regular Session dated April 29, May 6, May 13, May 20, May 27, 2021.**

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adopt minutes of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs from meetings held on April 29, May 6, May 13, May 20, and May 27, 2021. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Rick Edmonds  
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: