

House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
April 28, 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 9:31 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 Cedric B. Glover
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Timothy P. Kerner
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Scott McKnight
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative Joseph A. Stagni, vice chairman
Representative Matthew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tina Righteous, attorney
Jennifer Watson, committee assistant
Rosalie Ammersbach, committee assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Hailey Austin, clerk
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 237 by Representative Jenkins

Representative Jenkins presented House Bill No. 237, which provides relative to the administration of tests by the state examiner for certain positions in the city of Shreveport.

Chad Major, 8011 Merle Gustafson, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 578-8283, spoke in support of House Bill No. 327.

Representative McKnight offered a motion to report House Bill No. 237 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 237 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Marcelle, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 878 by Representative Horton

Representative Horton presented House Bill No. 878, which provides for hearing loss as an occupational disease while employed in the classified police service.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments to House Bill No. 878 that:

1. Made changes to provisions regarding the amount of hearing loss that shall be classified as a disease or infirmity connected to employment. Provided for hearing loss that is ten decibels or greater on average for the frequencies that the Occupational Safety and Health Administrations monitors for noise exposure in the general population when adjusted for aging.
2. Specifically provided that the employee is entitled to hearing aids rather than a hearing prosthesis.

3. Provided that the hearing loss shall be presumed to have been caused by or have resulted from hazardous noise exposure rather than the nature of the work performed after five years of employment.
4. Additionally required certain employees to submit to an annual audiological examination and a final termination audiological examination at the end of service.
5. Provided that the provisions of proposed law do not modify qualifications necessary to establish eligibility to receive certain public pension or retirement benefits.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Marcelle, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yeas.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 878 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 878 was reported by substitute by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yeas.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 906 by Representative Wheat

Representative Wheat presented House Bill No. 906, which removes a requirement for certain Lawrason Act municipalities to use the gubernatorial election dates for municipal elections.

Representative Kerner offered a motion to report House Bill No. 906 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 906 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Green, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yeas.

House Bill No. 355 by Representative Charles Owen

Representative Charles Owen presented House Bill No. 355, which prohibits municipalities from enacting certain regulations relative to fuel retailers and transportation infrastructure.

Representative Farnum offered amendments to House Bill No. 355 that:

1. Prohibited the adoption of any directive or executive order that prohibits the siting, development, or redevelopment of a fuel retailer or related transportation infrastructure.

2. Removed provisions that prohibited the adoption of ordinances and other regulations that result in defacto prohibition of a fuel retailer or related transportation infrastructure.
3. Removed provisions that prohibited requiring a fuel retailer to install or invest in a particular kind of fueling infrastructure.
4. Removed provisions that authorize the adoption of ordinances and other regulations that are not inconsistent with state law regarding the siting, development, or redevelopment of a fuel retailer or related transportation infrastructure.
5. Added provisions that authorize parishes, municipalities, other local governmental entities, and public and private groups to further define and regulate fuel retailers and related transportation infrastructure.

Representative Farnum 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, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

Representative Farnum offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 355. Representative Farnum offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 355. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 355 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, and 1 in opposition. 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 opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1042 by Representative Hilferty

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 1042, which requires certain agencies within the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to evaluate certain drainage projects.

Representative Willard offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1042. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1042 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 818 by Representative Hughes

Representative Hughes presented House Bill No. 818, which provides relative to certain expedited hearing schedules.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 818 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 818 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Vice Chairman Stagni in the chair.

House Bill No. 879 by Representative Gadberry

Representative Gadberry presented House Bill No. 879, which provides relative to an authorized expense allowance paid to members of a parish governing authority.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 879 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 879 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

House Bill No. 777 by Representative Glover

Representative Glover presented House Bill No. 777, which provides relative to the secretary for the municipal fire and police civil service board in certain municipalities.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 777 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 777 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

House Bill No. 1029 by Representative Glover

Representative Glover presented House Bill No. 1029, which provides relative to the Shreveport Water Works Museum.

Michael McKnight, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, office of state museums, Capitol Annex, (225) 802-9620, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1029.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1029 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1029 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those 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: 6 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1050 by Representative Glover

Representative Glover presented House Bill No. 1050, which provides relative to certain state property.

Representative Glover offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Glover offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Chairman Edmonds in the chair.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1050. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1050 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 854 by Representative Stagni

Representative Stagni presented House Bill No. 854, which provides relative to occupational diseases for members in the classified fire service.

Chad Major, 8011 Merle Gustafson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70807, (225) 572-8483, spoke in support of House Bill No. 854.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 854. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 854 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, 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. 874 by Representative Stagni

Representative Stagni presented House Bill No. 874, which provides relative to the office of deputy state examiner.

Adrienne Bordelon, office of state examiner, 8550 United Plaza Boulevard, Suite 901, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-4416, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 874.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 874 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 874 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, 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. 886 by Representative Stagni

Representative Stagni presented House Bill No. 886, which provides relative to powers granted to the state examiner with respect to the admission to tests.

Adrienne Bordelon, office of state examiner, 8550 United Plaza Boulevard, Suite 901, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-4416, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 886.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 886 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 886 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 458 by Representative St. Blanc

Representative St. Blanc presented House Bill No. 458, which provides relative to the powers granted to the city of Franklin to regulate the storing and abandoning of junk or junked vehicles.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 458. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 458 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: