House Committee on Ways and Means

Minutes of Meeting 2022 Regular Session April 26, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaullieu, IV, vice-chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaullieu, IV, vice chairman

Representative Ryan Bourriaque

Representative Les Farnum

Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe

Representative Wayne McMahen

Representative Buddy Mincey, Jr.

Representative Joseph A. Orgeron

Representative Tammy T. Phelps

Representative Neil Riser

Representative Laurie Schlegel

Representative Malinda B. White

Representative Matthew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Stuart J. Bishop, chairman

Representative Marcus Anthony Bryant

Representative Rhonda Gaye Butler

Representative Phillip R. DeVillier

Representative Mandie Landry

Representative Tanner D. Magee

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brittany Lea, committee administrative assistant Alison Pryor, senior attorney

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ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 925 by Representative Butler

On behalf of Representative Butler, Representative Beaullieu offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 925, which establishes the Louisiana Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program to provide financial assistance to local governments and political subdivisions for certain capital infrastructure projects. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 925 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaullieu, Farnum, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Phelps, Riser, Schlegel, White, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 794 by Representative Jordan

On behalf of Representative Jordan, Representative LeFleur presented House Bill No. 794, which authorizes a rebate for certain costs associated with the purchase and installation of solar-electric systems.

Representative Willard offered amendments which: (1) change the amount of the rebate; (2) change the definition; (3) establish an annual program cap; (4) clarify the procedure and process for granting and issuing the rebates; and (5) provide for a termination date for the rebate of June 30, 2025. Representative Willard offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaullieu, Farnum, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Phelps, Riser, Schlegel, White, and Willard voted yea.

Ms. Deborah Vivien, chief economist, Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO), 900 North 3rd Street, 18th floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7233, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 794.

Representative Willard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 794 with amendments, to which Representative Riser objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 3 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Phelps, White, and Willard voted yea. Representatives Beaullieu, Farnum, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, and Schlegel voted nay.

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

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House Bill No. 972 by Representative Phelps

Representative Phelps presented House Bill No. 972, which establishes an amnesty program for fines, fees, and assessments imposed by state agencies.

Mr. Kevin Richard, secretary, Louisiana Department of Revenue (DOR), 617 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-4059, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 972.

Ms. Staci Hoyt, deputy commissioner, 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 270-1556, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 972.

Representative Phelps offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 972. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 972 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Farnum, LaCombe, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Phelps, Riser, Schlegel, White, and Willard voted yea.

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

The committee stood at ease at 9:39 a.m. The committee reconvened at 9:42 a.m.

House Bill No. 1018 by Representative Edmonds

Representative Edmonds presented House Bill No. 1018, which establishes the Temporary Sales Tax Fund and provides for deposit of certain state sales tax revenue into the fund.

Representative Beaullieu offered amendments which: (1) establish six subfunds within the Temporary Tax Fund and specifies the use of the monies in each subfund; and (2) change the effective date of the bill from governor's signature to July 1, 2022. Representative Beaullieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Riser objected. After further discussion, Representative Beaullieu withdrew the amendments. No vote was taken.

Representative Beaullieu offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1018. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1018 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Farnum, LaCombe, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Schlegel, White, and Willard voted yea.

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

The committee stood at ease at 10:13 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:16 a.m.

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House Concurrent Resolution No. 41 by Representative Gregory Miller

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 41, which directs the La. State Law Institute to direct printers to add a validity note following Article IX, Section 9 of the La. Constitution.

Representative Riser offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 41 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 41 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Farnum, LaCombe, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, White, and Willard voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Willard offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Farnum, LaCombe, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, White, and Willard voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Stuart J. Bishop House Committee on Ways and Means