

## House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting  
2023 Regular Session  
June 5, 2023

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative John M. Stefanski, chairman of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.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 Les Farnum  
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry  
Representative Barry Ivey  
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.  
Representative Michael T. Johnson  
Representative Rodney Lyons, vice chairman  
Representative Tanner D. Magee  
Representative Richard James Nelson  
Representative Candace N. Newell  
Representative Polly Thomas  
Representative Malinda B. White

#### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.  
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe

#### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst  
Annie Smith, attorney  
Rosalie Ammersbach, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Alex Stefanski, clerk  
Vivian Hurst, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Concurrent Resolution No. 115 by Representative McFarland**

Representative McFarland presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 115, which creates a task force to support the cross-agency work associated with the recreation of Early Childhood Supports and Services program in this state.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments to add nine members to the task force. Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 115 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 115 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

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

**House Resolution No. 185 by Representative Gregory Miller**

Representative Gregory Miller presented House Resolution No. 185, which requires a chairman to disclose certain information to the Speaker of the House when scheduling interim meetings under specified circumstances.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 185 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 185 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

**House Resolution No. 180 by Representative Geymann**

Representative Geymann presented House Resolution No. 180, which establishes the Louisiana Sustainability Limit and requires notice related thereto.

Alan Boxberger, Legislative Fiscal Office, P.O. Box 44097, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 180.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments to provide that the Legislative Fiscal Officer shall notify the House if timing precludes him from submitting the report required by proposed House Rule. Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Nelson, Newell, and Thomas voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 180 with amendments. Without objection, House Resolution No. 180 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Deshotel, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Lyons, Nelson, Newell, and Thomas voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

**House Resolution No. 168 by Representative Seabaugh**

Representative Seabaugh presented House Resolution No. 168, which creates a task force to study the effects of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative and the rise of violent crime in Louisiana.

Representative Stefanski offered amendments that:

- (1) Removed a provision for nomination of legislator members.
- (2) Added the executive director of the Louisiana Chiefs of Police Association, the executive director of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association, and a representative of the United Way of Southeast Louisiana appointed by the speaker to the membership of the task force.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Magee, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

Tom Costanza, Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2431 South Acadian Thruway, Suite 250, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (504) 874-7829, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 168.

*Representative Magee in the chair.*

Scott E. Peyton, Right on Crime, 859 Hicks Road, Washington, LA 70589, (337) 412-5712, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 168.

*Chairman Stefanski in the chair.*

Charmaine Caccioppi, United Way of Southeast Louisiana, 2401 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 669-8529, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 168.

Stephanie L. Willis, ACLU of Louisiana, P.O. Box 56157, New Orleans, LA 70156, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 168.

Michael Cahoon, The Promise of Justice Initiative, 1024 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117, (504) 529-5955, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 168.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 168 with amendments. Without objection, House Resolution No. 168 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

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

Representative Thomas offered a motion to adopt a three-minute rule for presenters and witnesses. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 8 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

### **House Resolution No. 196 by Representative Landry**

On behalf of Representative Landry, Representative Ivey presented House Resolution No. 196, which recreates the Safe Alternatives to Segregation Task Force.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 196 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 196 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

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

**House Resolution No. 174 by Representative Freeman**

On behalf of Representative Freeman, Representative Newell presented House Resolution No. 174, which requests a study of the educational programs in the prisons and jails of this state.

Representative Newell offered amendments that:

- (1) Removed the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, one representative from the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, representatives from the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, family members of currently incarcerated individuals, one member of the Louisiana Board of Regents, one member of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, and the chairmen of the House criminal justice, education, and appropriations committees from the membership of the task force.
- (2) Provided for Tulane University, rather than the Department of Education, to provide staff support to the task force.
- (3) Provided a deadline for reporting.

Representative Newell offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 174 with amendments. Without objection, House Resolution No. 174 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

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

**House Resolution No. 254 by Representative Schexnayder**

On behalf of Representative Schexnayder, Representative Beaulieu presented House Resolution No. 254, which provides relative to the use of the House Chamber.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments to authorize use of the House Chamber by the House of Representatives and committees thereof, committees of the Legislature of Louisiana, and the Young Republicans of Louisiana. Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 254 with amendments. Without objection, House Resolution No. 254 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

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

##### **Review of forms and instructions submitted by the Louisiana Board of Ethics**

Kristy Gary, Louisiana Board of Ethics, P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 219-5600, discussed the revised language on the Candidate's Report Instructions (Form 102) submitted by the Board of Ethics, Exhibit A, which is in the committee records.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to approve the candidate form instructions. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

Kristy Gary, Louisiana Board of Ethics, P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 219-5600, discussed the Statement of Organization Form for Political Committees submitted by the Board of Ethics, Exhibit B, which is in the committee records.

Representative Stefanski offered a motion to approve the statement of organization form for political committees. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

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

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Farnum offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Beaulieu, Farnum, Gadberry, Ivey, Jenkins, Mike Johnson, Nelson, Newell, Thomas, and White voted yea. Representative Stefanski abstained.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: