

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2023 Regular Session
April 26, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:07 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 Kenny R. Cox
Representative Raymond J. Crews
Representative Michael Charles Echols
Representative Jason Hughes
Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Wayne McMahan
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen
Representative Thomas A. Pressly
Representative Laurie Schlegel
Representative Larry Selders
Representative Joseph A. Stagni
Representative Christopher Turner, vice chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Robby Carter
Representative Ed Larvadain, III

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Taylor Chrisman, attorney
Meah Johnson, attorney
Kristy Neubrandner, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms
Randall Ike, committee clerk
Nevonda Reed, division director

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 434 by Representative McFarland**

Representative McFarland presented House Bill No. 434, which provides relative to the state medical assistance program.

Representative Bagley offered technical amendments. Representative Bagley 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, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Moore, Robert Owen, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to:

- (1) Delete the requirement for tier assignment information to be included in the quarterly report.
- (2) Specify that the total number of individuals who are accepted and enrolled in case management services be included in the quarterly report.
- (3) Make technical corrections.

Representative Bagley 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, Cox, Crews, Echols, Travis Johnson, Moore, Robert Owen, Schlegel, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Greg Waddell, Louisiana Hospital Association, 9521 Brookline Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 928-0026, spoke in support of House Bill No. 434.

Representative Turner offered a motion to report House Bill No. 434 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 434 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Echols, Travis Johnson, Dustin Miller, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, Schlegel, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 11 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 467 by Representative Marino

Representative Marino presented House Bill No. 467, which provides relative to marijuana pharmacies.

Joe Fontenot, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, 3388 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-6481, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 467.

Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 467. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 467 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Schlegel, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support and 5 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 support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 480 by Representative Dustin Miller

Representative Dustin Miller presented House Bill No. 480, which provides for employment of people ages sixteen and over as direct support professionals for Medicaid waivers and services.

Representative Dustin Miller offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 480. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 480 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Schlegel, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. 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. 493 by Representative Dustin Miller

Representative Dustin Miller presented House Bill No. 493, which provides for fees on emergency ground ambulance providers and the disposition of fees.

Pam Diez, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 493.

Representative Bagley offered technical amendments. Representative Bagley 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, Cox, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Schlegel, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 493 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 493 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Echols, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Robert Owen, Pressly, Schlegel, Stagni, and Turner 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.

House Bill No. 460 by Representative Robert Owen

Representative Robert Owen presented House Bill No. 460, which provides relative to the dispensing of medical marijuana.

Representative Robert Owen offered technical amendments. Representative Robert Owen offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Dustin Miller, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Danny Ford, The Louisiana Association for Therapeutic Alternatives (LATA), 532 Spanish Town Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 247-4100, spoke in support of House Bill No. 460.

Peter Prevot, LATA, 532 Spanish Town Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 571-7617, spoke in support of House Bill No. 460.

Representative Travis Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 460 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 460 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Hughes, Travis Johnson, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 574 by Representative Alan Seabaugh

Chairman Bagley announced that action on House Bill No. 574 by Representative Alan Seabaugh, which provides relative to industrial hemp, was voluntarily deferred.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Adams offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Moore, Robert Owen, Selders, Stagni, and Turner voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: