

## **House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations**

Minutes of Meeting  
2023 Regular Session  
April 27, 2023

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

Representative Barbara W. Carpenter, chairman of the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations, called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Barbara W. Carpenter, chairman  
Representative Beryl A. Amedée  
Representative Mack Marcel Cormier  
Representative Kenny R. Cox  
Representative Michael Charles Echols  
Representative Lawrence "Larry" Frieman  
Representative Dodie Horton  
Representative Ed Larvadain, III  
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen  
Representative Tammy T. Phelps  
Representative Neil Riser, vice chairman  
Representative Laurie Schlegel

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Raymond J. Crews  
Representative Valarie Hodges

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

Jurissa McGuire, attorney  
Jaimie Matthews, committee administrative assistant

#### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms  
Nevoda Reed Dobard, division director

### III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

#### **House Bill No. 51 by Representative Goudeau**

Representative Goudeau presented House Bill No. 51, which provides relative to the verification of attendance at employment interviews.

Robert Wooley, Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC), 1001 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 938-4240, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 51.

Dawn McVea, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), 301 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 51.

Representative Frieman offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 51. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 51 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Echols, Frieman, Larvadain, Robert Owen, Phelps, Riser, and Schlegel voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 4 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 340 by Representative Romero**

Representative Romero presented House Bill No. 340, which provides relative to the duration of unemployment compensation benefits and provides for extended benefits.

Brian Sikma, Opportunity Solutions Project, 15275 Collier Boulevard, Naples, FL. 34119, (219) 477-9009, spoke in support of House Bill 340.

Ava D. Cates, (LWC), 1001 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (504) 453-7249, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 340.

Margaret Mabile, (LWC), 1001 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 242-1286, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 340.

Robert Wooley, (LWC), 1001 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 938-4240, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 51.

Representative Carpenter offered to make technical changes. Representative Carpenter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by

a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Echols, Frieman, Horton, Larvadain, Robert Owen, Phelps, Riser, and Schlegel voted yea.

Representative Echols offered amendments to:

- (1) Make title and technical changes.
- (2) Add an effective date of January 1, 2025

Representative Echols offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Phelps objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Echols, Frieman, Horton, Larvadain, Robert Owen, Riser, and Schlegel voted yea. Representative Phelps voted nay.

Representative Amedee offered a motion to call the question on House Bill No. 340. Without objection, by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays, the question was called. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Echols, Frieman, Horton, Larvadain, Robert Owen, Phelps, Riser, and Schlegel voted yea.

Representative Frieman offered a motion to report House Bill No. 340 with amendments, to which Representative Larvadain objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 340 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Amedee, Echols, Frieman, Horton, Robert Owen, Riser, and Schlegel voted yea. Representatives Carpenter, Cormier, Cox, Larvadain, and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 4 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 456 by Representative Crews**

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 456, which provides relative to the duration of unemployment compensation benefits and creates the job and reemployment act. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 456 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Echols, Frieman, Horton, Larvadain, Robert Owen, Phelps, Riser, and Schlegel voted yea.

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

Representative Riser offered a motion to adopt the minutes of the 2021 Interim for the meeting held on December 1, 2021, and adopt the minutes of the 2022 Regular Session for the meetings held on April 7, April 20, April 28, May 12, May 19, and May 26, 2022. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cox, Echols, Frieman, Horton, Larvadain, Phelps, Riser, and Schlegel voted yea.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Echols offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Echols, Frieman, Horton, Larvadain, Robert Owen, Phelps, Riser, and Schlegel voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Barbara W. Carpenter  
House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations

Date adopted: