

House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations

Minutes of Meeting
2023 Regular Session
May 3, 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 9:39 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 Raymond J. Crews
Representative Michael Charles Echols
Representative Lawrence "Larry" Frieman
Representative Valarie Hodges
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:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jurissa McGuire, attorney
Jaimie Matthews, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

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

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 313 by Representative Larvadain

Representative Carpenter announced that action on House Bill No. 313, which provides relative to workplace violence in certain commercial settings, was voluntarily deferred.

House Bill No. 40 by Representative Boyd

Representative Boyd presented House Bill No. 40, which provides relative to employment discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation.

Melissa Flournoy, 10,000 Women, 2228 Cherokee Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 936-7200, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Sarahjane Guidry, Forum for Equality (FOE), 4719 South Claiborne Ave, New Orleans, LA 70122, (504) 301-6006, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Arlene T. Madine, Step Up For Action, 2525 Cuffin Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117, (504) 458-6973 spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Curtis Williams, Step Up For Action, 2022 Saint Bernard Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117, (504) 214-6475 spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Mickey Mickle, New Orleans Black Labor Project, 61 Newcomb Place #6329, New Orleans, LA 70118, (281) 790-3093, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Pexton Rose Michelle, Louisiana Trans Advocates, 1099 Ruth Drive, Saint Martinville, LA 70582, (337) 356-9312, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Jasmine Kemp, Washington Parish, 630 Avenue C, Bogalusa, LA 70427, (985) 335-7781, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Logan Wolf, FOE, 373 Waverly Road, Thibodeaux, LA 70301, (985) 519-1236, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Nan Dietz, 1553 North Dorgenois Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, (510) 684-2187, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Julie Schwand Harris, Law Legis Agenda for Women, 1208 Pine Street, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 263-2972, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Natalie Elethrop, 119 Sand Ridge Road, Eros, LA 71238, (318) 450-9854, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Brandi Ortiz Comeaux, Acadiana Queer Collective, 139 Parduton Street, Lafayette, LA 70503, (713) 882-5897, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

John Raymond, New Horizon Church, 3401 Pontchartrain Drive, Slidell, LA 70458, (985) 768-9640, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 40.

Corey McCoy, KOK Wings and Things, 128 Mildred Street, Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 501-7613, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Woody Jenkins, 910 North Fooke Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 921-1433, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 40.

J. Christopher Johnson, 617 Bannerwood Drive, Gretna, LA 70056, (504) 236-1692, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Alicia Breaux, 74355 Highway 437, Covington, LA 70433, (985) 809-1006, spoke in support of House Bill No. 40.

Representative Larvadain offered amendments to:

- (1) Make title and technical changes.
- (2) Remove the religion exemption provision from proposed law.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Cormier, Cox, Crews, Frieman, Horton, Larvadain, Phelps, and Schlegel voted yea.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to report House Bill No. 40 with amendments, to which Representative Amedee objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Cormier, Cox, Larvadain, and Phelps voted yea. Representatives Amedee, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Hodges, Robert Owen, and Schlegel voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 65 in support and 11 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 7 in support and 7 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records electronically.

House Bill No. 374 by Representative Larvadain

Representative Larvadain presented House Bill No. 374, which establishes a state minimum wage rate.

Darryl Hurst, East Baton Rouge Metro Council District No. 5, 3585 Riley Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70805, (225) 206-5416, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Tyronne Walker, Urban League of Louisiana, 4640 South Carrolton Avenue, Suite 210, New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 620-2332, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Melissa Flournoy, 10,000 Women, 2228 Cherokee Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 936-7200, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Matt Wood, American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organizations, 409 Government Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 819-7715, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Jan Moller, Louisiana Budget Project, 619 Jefferson Highway, Suite 1-D, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 819-7715, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Julie Schwand Harris, Law Legislative Agenda for Women, 1208 Pine Street, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 263-2972, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Kenya Slaughter, Step Up Louisiana (SUL), 2427 Northview Drive, Alexandria, LA 71301, (318) 769-2422, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Peter Robins-Brown, Louisiana Progress Action, 650 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (504) 256-8196, spoke in support of House Bil No. 374.

Rickie Lemos, Power Coalition, 2412 Lavey Lane, Baker, LA 70714, (225) 337-4140, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

David Williams, Step Up For Action, 2904 Leoniadas Street, New Orleans, LA 70118, no phone number provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Logan Wolf, Power Coalition, 373 Waverly Road, Thibodeaux, LA 70301, (985) 519-1236, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Katie Hunter-Lowery, Louisiana Survivors for Reform, 1024 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117, (504) 535-4912, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Caleb Holmes, Sierra Club, 2455 Weldword Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70812, (318) 638-9500, spoke in support of House Bill No. 374.

Dawn McVea, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), 301 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 287-4626, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 374.

Jim Patterson, Louisiana Association of Business & Industry, 500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 928-5388, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 374.

Representative Carpenter offered amendments to:

- (1) Make title changes.
- (2) Remove the enforcement provision from proposed law.

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Crews, Frieman, Horton, Larvadain, Robert Owen, Phelps, and Schlegel voted yea.

Representative Cormier offered a motion to report House Bill No. 374 with amendments, to which Representative Frieman objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 9 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Cormier, Cox, Larvadain, and Phelps voted yea. Representatives Amedee, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Hodges, Horton, Robert Owen, Riser, and Schlegel voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 69 in support and 3 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 12 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records electronically.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Cox offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carpenter, Amedee, Cormier, Cox, Crews, Echols, Frieman, Hodges, Horton, Larvadain, Robert Owen, Phelps, Riser, and Schlegel voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: