

## **House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment**

Minutes of Meeting  
2023 Regular Session  
May 24, 2023

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

Representative Ryan Bourriaque, vice chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Ryan Bourriaque, vice chairman  
Representative Rhonda Gaye Butler  
Representative R. Dewith Carrier  
Representative Mack Marcel Cormier  
Representative Timothy P. Kerner  
Representative Scott McKnight  
Representative Buddy Mincey, Jr.  
Representative Joseph A. Orgeron  
Representative Neil Riser  
Representative Troy D. Romero  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative William "Bill" Wheat, Jr.

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan, chairman  
Representative Adrian Fisher  
Representative Stephanie Hilferty  
Representative Mandie Landry

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

Robin Stalder, attorney  
Benjamin Westra, attorney  
Lacy Slaughter, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****Senate Bill No. 62 by Senator Fesi**

Senator Fesi presented Senate Bill No. 62, which provides for the notification of certain hazardous material releases.

Mr. Trey Hill, Atmos Energy, 3114 Pentagon Ct., Baton Rouge, LA, 70810, no phone number provided, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 62.

Representative McKnight offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 62 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 62 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Butler, Carrier, Cormier, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Romero, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

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

**Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 46 by Senator Allain**

Senator Allain presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 46, which urges and requests the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission promulgate rules and regulations providing for red drum.

Mr. David Cresson, CCA, 12241 Industriplex Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 588-4823, spoke in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 46.

Representative McKnight offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 46 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 46 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Butler, Carrier, Cormier, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Romero, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**Senate Bill No. 154 by Senator Allain**

Senator Allain presented Senate Bill No. 154, which provides for renewable energy leases.

Mr. Dan Claitor, SRA, 7520 Perkins Rd. #176, no city, state, or zip code provided, no phone number provided, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 154.

Mr. Emory Belton, Bondy Properties, Allendale Properties, 7266 Tom Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 615-0212, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 154.

Mr. David Bondy, self, 2351 Energy Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 216-4209, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 154.

Mr. Trent Bondy, Bondy Properties LLC, 6033 Covington Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70820, no phone number provided, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 154.

Representative McKnight offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 154 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 154 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Butler, Carrier, Cormier, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Romero, Schamerhorn, and Wheat 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.

#### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 105 by Representative Garofalo**

Representative Garofalo presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 105, which urges and requests the Louisiana Department of Health and the United States Food and Drug Administration to expand testing of imported shrimp.

Representative Kerner offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 105 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 105 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Butler, Carrier, Cormier, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Romero, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

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

#### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 109 by Representative Kerner**

Representative Kerner presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 109, which memorializes Congress to impose a quota or tariff on imported shrimp and enact a buy plan for domestic shrimp.

Representative Orgeron offered amendments to add crab meat and crawfish to the provisions of the bill pertaining to the imposition of a quota or tariff if imported and the enactment of a buy plan if acquired domestically.

Representative Orgeron offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Butler, Carrier, Cormier, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Romero, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

Representative Wheat offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 109 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 109 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Butler, Carrier, Cormier, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Romero, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

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

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

##### **Update from the Louisiana Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit on rice variety research project.**

Mr. Chad Courville, LWWG, PO Box 93215, Lafayette, LA 70509, (337) 344-4252, spoke for information only on the project update.

Dr. Drew Fowler, LA Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, 224 Renewable Natural Resources Building, no address provided, Baton Rouge, LA, 70803, no phone number provided, spoke for information only and presented a powerpoint on the project update.

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

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative McKnight offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Butler, Cormier, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Riser, Romero, Schamerhorn, and Wheat voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Jean-Paul P. Coussan  
House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Date adopted: