House Committee on Ways and Means

Minutes of Meeting 2023 Regular Session April 13, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stuart J. Bishop, chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Stuart J. Bishop, chairman Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaullieu, IV, vice chairman Representative Ryan Bourriaque Representative Marcus Anthony Bryant Representative Rhonda Gaye Butler Representative Phillip R. DeVillier Representative Les Farnum Representative Mandie Landry Representative Wayne McMahen Representative Buddy Mincey, Jr. Representative Joseph A. Orgeron Representative Tammy T. Phelps Representative Neil Riser Representative Laurie Schlegel Representative Malinda B. White Representative Matthew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe Representative Tanner D. Magee

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brittany Lea, committee administrative assistant Drew Murray, legislative analyst Alison Pryor, senior attorney

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 422 by Representative Marcelle

Representative Marcelle presented House Bill No. 422, which limits the fees assessed by the office of debt recovery on delinquent debt that originates from certain criminal fines, fees, and costs.

Mr. Kevin Richard, secretary, Louisiana Department of Revenue (DOR), 617 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70802, (225) 219-4059, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 422.

Ms. Mia Strong, confidential assistant to the secretary, Louisiana Department of Revenue (DOR), 617 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802, (225) 963-2855, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 422.

Representative Willard offered amendments to reduce the amount of fees that may be collected from a debtor by OMV from not to exceed 25% to not exceed 15%. Representative Willard offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, Butler, DeVillier, Farnum, Landry, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Phelps, Riser, Schlegel, White, and Willard voted yea.

Mr. Peter Robins-Brown, Louisiana Progress Action, 650 North 6th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802, (504) 256-8196, spoke in support of House Bill No. 422.

Ms. Alexis Yeboah-Kodie, attorney, Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana, 4035 Washington Avenue, Suite 203, New Orleans, Louisiana 70125, (504) 576-1434, spoke in support of House Bill No. 422.

Representative Willard offered amendments to reduce the amount of the fee that may be collected from a debtor on debt that originated from OMV to not exceed 15% and all other debt the fee would be not to exceed 25%. The reduction in the fee for OMV debt would be from Jan. 1, 2024 through Dec. 31, 2026. Representative Willard offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, Butler, DeVillier, Farnum, Landry, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Phelps, Riser, Schlegel, White, and Willard voted yea.

Representative White offered a motion to report House Bill No. 422 with amendments, to which Representative Bishop objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 7 yeas and 9 nays. Representatives Bryant, Landry, McMahen, Mincey, Phelps, White, and Willard voted yea. Representatives Bishop, Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Butler, DeVillier, Farnum, Orgeron, Riser, and Schlegel voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Beaullieu in the chair.

House Bill No. 486 by Representative Hilferty

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 486, a constitutional amendment which provides with respect to the applicability of the additional property tax exemptions for certain veterans with disabilities.

Representative Beaullieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 486 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 486 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, DeVillier, Farnum, Landry, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Phelps, Riser, Schlegel, White, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 500 by Representative Hilferty

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 500, which provides with respect to the applicability of the additional property tax exemptions for certain veterans with disabilities.

Representative Beaullieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 500 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 500 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, DeVillier, Farnum, Landry, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Schlegel, White, and Willard voted yea.

House Bill No. 285 by Representative Turner

Representative Turner presented House Bill No. 285, which provides relative to the use of state sales tax increments in certain local tax increment financing initiatives.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to report House Bill No. 285 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 285 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, DeVillier, Farnum, Landry, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Schlegel, and Willard voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 447 by Representative Pierre

Representative Pierre presented House Bill No. 447, which requires agency referrals of delinquent debt to the office of debt recovery for collection to include certain information.

Mr. Peter Robins-Brown, Louisiana Progress Action, 650 North 6th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802, (504) 256-8196, spoke in support of House Bill No. 447.

Ms. Alexis Yeboah-Kodie, attorney, Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana, 4035 Washington Avenue, Suite 203, New Orleans, Louisiana 70125, (504) 576-1434, spoke in support of House Bill No. 447.

Mr. Kevin Richard, secretary, Louisiana Department of Revenue (DOR), 617 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70802, (225) 219-4059, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 447.

Representative Bishop offered a motion to report House Bill No. 447 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 447 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, DeVillier, Farnum, Landry, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Phelps, Schlegel, White, and Willard 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

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Beaullieu, Bourriaque, Bryant, DeVillier, Farnum, Landry, McMahen, Mincey, Orgeron, Phelps, Schlegel, White, and Willard voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Stuart J. Bishop House Committee on Ways and Means