

House Committee on Commerce

Minutes of Meeting
2025 Regular Session
May 5, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel, chair of the House Committee on Commerce, called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel, chair
Representative Kim Carver
Representative Vincent E. Cox, III
Representative Paula P. Davis
Representative Jessica Domangue
Representative Troy Jude Hebert
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Edmond Jordan
Representative Alonzo L. Knox
Representative Jacob Jules Landry
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Dixon Wallace McMakin
Representative Shaun Raphael Mena
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Neil Riser
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Polly Thomas, vice chair

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Delisha Boyd
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathryn Vigrass, legislative analyst
Benjamin McArthur, attorney
Faith Lillie, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Nevonda Reed, division director
Felicie Jackson, executive assistant
Randall Ike, committee clerk
Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms
Johnae' Conner, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 670 by Representative Amedee**

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 670, which assesses fees on remittances of money to foreign countries and dedicates proceeds of the fees. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 670 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 by Representative Mike Johnson

Representative Mike Johnson presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 11, which urges Louisiana Public Service Commission and Cleco Power to approve the sale of a regulated utility only in certain circumstances.

Brandon Frey, Louisiana Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 91154, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 11.

Representative Knox offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

House Bill No. 125 by Representative Horton

Representative Horton presented House Bill No. 125, which provides for the protection, storage, and access of genomic information.

Michael Lucci, State Armor Action, 300 S. Riverside, Ste. 1625, Chicago, IL 60606, spoke in support of House Bill No. 125.

Jacqueline Deal, State Armor Action, P.O. Box 40124, Washington, DC 20016, spoke in support of House Bill No. 125.

Witness cards presented by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 1 designee of an elected official.

Further action was taken by the committee on House Bill No. 125 at a later point in the meeting. Please check for the subsequent action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 125.

House Bill No. 570 by Representative Carver

This is a continuation of the discussion on House Bill No. 570 from April 28, 2025. Please check for prior action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 570.

Representative Carver presented House Bill No. 570, which provides relative to minors use of applications.

Representative Deshotel offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative Deshotel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Davis offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Add definitions for application, content description, minor, minor account, mobile device, and mobile operating system.
- (3) Amend the definitions for covered application store and developer.
- (4) Add that to determine if individuals under 18, a method is commercially available if it includes affirmative age attestation by someone who is reasonably believed to be the parent or legal guardian, along with other information collected in the ordinary course of account creation or use.
- (5) Clarify language regarding a covered application store provider and age categories.

- (6) Add that any developer required by law to age verify users at the application level shall continue to be responsible for age verification. No provision in proposed law shall remove this responsibility.
- (7) Add that proposed law shall not be construed to prevent a covered application store provider or developer from taking certain actions.
- (8) Add a severability clause.
- (9) Direct the La. State Law Institute to make technical changes.
- (10) Add an effective date of July 1, 2026.

Representative Davis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Davis offered amendments to add that a developer shall also use age verification methods when complying with applicable laws and regulations. Representative Davis offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Casey Stefanski, Digital Childhood Alliance, 2670 Dellwood Rd. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30305, spoke in support of House Bill No. 570.

Representative Thomas in the chair.

Arun Cacodcar, 226 Princeton Woods Loop, no city, state, or zip provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 570.

Representative Deshotel in the chair.

Brinkley Bennett, Louisiana Legislative Youth Advisory, 14713 Pendleton WY., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, spoke in support of House Bill No. 570.

Jared Hayden, The Institute for Family Studies, P.O. Box 1502, Charlottesville, VA 22902, spoke in support of House Bill No. 570.

Michelle Johnson, 1113 Range Ave., Ste. 110, #116, Denham Springs, LA 70726, spoke in support of House Bill No. 570.

Aden Hizkias, Chamber of Progress, no address provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 570.

John Tamny, Parkview Initiative, 4811 Fort Summer Dr., Bethesda, MD 20816, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 570.

Justin Hill, Netchoice, 1401 K. St. N.W., Ste. 502, Washington, DC 20005, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 570.

Representative Davis offered a motion to report House Bill No. 570 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 570 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 18 in support and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Kathleen Benfield, Louisiana Family Forum, 655 St. Ferdinand St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records. She did not speak.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 570.

House Bill No. 125 by Representative Horton

This is a continuation of the discussion on House Bill No. 125 from earlier in the meeting. Please check for the prior action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 125.

Representative Horton presented House Bill No. 125, which provides for the protection, storage, and access of genomic information.

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 125. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 125 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals that did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 1 designee of an elected officials. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Further action was taken by the committee on House Bill No. 125 on May 6, 2025. Please check for the subsequent action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 125.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Newell offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Daryl Andrew Deshotel
House Committee on Commerce

Date adopted: