

House Committee on Commerce

Minutes of Meeting
2025 Regular Session
May 12, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel, chair of the House Committee on Commerce, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel, chair
Representative Delisha Boyd
Representative Kim Carver
Representative Vincent E. Cox, III
Representative Paula P. Davis
Representative Jessica Domangue
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
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:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathryn Vigrass, legislative analyst
Benjamin McArthur, attorney
Sharell Steven, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Nevonda Reed, division director
Randall Ike, committee clerk
Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms
Johnae Conner, sergeant at arms
Ralph Palmer, sergeant at arms
Shirlena Ruffin, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 547 by Representative Boyer**

Representative Boyer presented House Bill No. 547, which authorizes fixed odds wagering on horse races.

Jake Delhomme, Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association (LTBA), 1459 Mills Hwy., Breaux Bridge, LA 70517, spoke in support of House Bill No. 547.

Representative Deshotel offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Redistribute monies in the fund for purse supplements and breeder awards.
- (3) Specify that licensees may accept fixed odds wagers with the approval of the host racetrack and the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association.

Edwin Fenascai, Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (LAHBPA), 1535 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70119, spoke in support of House Bill No. 547.

Representative Newell offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 547 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 547 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 593 by Representative Boyer

Representative Boyer presented House Bill No. 593, which provides relative to the creation of Louisiana Equestrian Corporation.

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 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

John Duvieilh, LAHBPA and LTBA, 340 Chinawood Dr., Abita Springs, LA 70420, spoke in support of House Bill No. 593.

Representative St. Blanc offered a motion to report House Bill No. 593 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 593 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness card submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 538 by Representative Wyble

Representative Wyble presented House Bill No. 538, which provides with respect to the State Boxing and Wrestling Commission.

Representative Deshotel offered amendments to:

- (1) Increase fees for various license types issued by the commission.
- (2) Increase salaries for certain commission members.
- (3) Remove provisions that no state funds will be expended by the commission.
- (4) Provide for a per diem for commission members who attend meetings or activities.

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Jordan, Knox, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Ronnie Rantz, State Boxing and Wrestling Commission, 9340 Greystone Dr., Denham Springs, LA 70726, spoke in support of House Bill No. 538.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report House Bill No. 538 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 538 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals that did not speak areas follows: 4 in support and 1 designee of an elected official. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 256 by Representative McMakin

Representative McMakin presented House Bill No. 256, which provides relative to the Louisiana Real Estate Commission.

Representative McMakin offered amendments to:

- (1) Remove proposed language that would have allowed for two six-year terms.
- (2) Add that a commissioner is able to serve two consecutive four-year terms and then must wait four years before he is eligible again.
- (3) Add that no commissioner shall serve more than eight consecutive years.

Representative McMakin 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, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Boyd offered a motion to report House Bill No. 256 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 256 was reported with amendments by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McCormick, McMakin, Mena, Newell, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

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

The committee stood at ease at 10:22 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:33 a.m. The administrative assistant called the role to establish a quorum.

House Bill No. 290 by Representative Freeman

Representative Freeman presented House Bill No. 290, which establishes requirements for notifications on social media.

Representative Newell offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 290. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 290 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 453 by Representative Freeman

Representative Freeman presented House Bill No. 453, which provides relative to standards when constructing a residential roof.

Julie Shiyou-Woodard, 66 Etheridge St., Mobile, LA 36604, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 453.

Representative Riser offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 453. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 453 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

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

Representative Carver in the chair.

House Bill No. 305 by Representative Deshotel

This is a continuation of the discussion on House Bill No. 305 from May 6, 2025. Please check for the prior action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 305.

Representative Deshotel presented House Bill No. 305, which provides for the regulation of certain broadband services.

Representative Deshotel offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 305. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 305 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

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

Further action was taken by the committee on House Bill No. 305 on May 13, 2025. Please check for the subsequent action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 305.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Riser offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Deshotel, Boyd, Carver, Cox, Davis, Domangue, Green, Hebert, Hilferty, Jordan, Knox, Jacob Landry, McMakin, Mena, Newell, Riser, St. Blanc, and Thomas voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Daryl Andrew Deshotel
House Committee on Commerce

Date adopted: