

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2025 Regular Session
April 29, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV, chair of the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. in Room 2, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV, chair
Representative Michael Robert "Mike" Bayham, Jr.
Representative Beth Anne Billings
Representative Delisha Boyd
Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Ed Larvadain, III
Representative Rodney Lyons, vice chair
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Dixon Wallace McMakin
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative Polly Thomas
Representative Mark Wright
Representative John E. Wyble

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Annie Smith, attorney
Joseph Chuter, attorney
Sarah Baker, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Caroline Vanhooose, clerk
Bryce McGlothlin, clerk
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS**House Resolution No. 86 by Representative Beaulieu**

The committee stood at ease at 9:38 a.m. The committee reconvened at 9:48 a.m.

Representative Beaulieu presented House Resolution No. 86, which provides relative to passing over controversial instruments on third reading and final passage.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 86 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 86 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Thomas, and Wyble voted yea.

House Bill No. 130 by Representative Billings

Representative Billings presented House Bill No. 130, which provides for powers and duties of the office of the state Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator.

Rikki David, office of state Americans with disabilities (ADA) coordinator, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 130.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 130 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 130 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Thomas, and Wyble voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support.

House Bill No. 99 by Representative Billings

Representative Billings presented House Bill No. 99, which provides relative to adjudications and judicial review of adjudications. Representative Billings provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Billings offered amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Repeal present law prohibition against an agency seeking judicial review.
3. Add language that prohibits an agency from seeking judicial review on a final decision or order during an adjudication proceeding if the agency issued the final decision or order.

Representative Billings offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Thomas, and Wyble voted yeas.

Sarah Harbison, Pelican Institute, 400 Poydras Street, Suite 900, New Orleans, LA 70130, spoke in support of House Bill No. 99.

Emily Andrews, office of the governor, no address provided, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 99.

Representative Wright offered a motion to report House Bill No. 99 with amendments, to which Representative Newell objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 99 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Marcelle, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yeas. Representative Newell voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, 2 for information only, and 1 as a designee of an elected official.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 99.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to adopt 3 minute rule. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Marcelle, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yeas.

House Bill No. 218 by Representative Carrier

Representative Carrier presented House Bill No. 218, which provides relative to the administration of the Cecil J. Picard Educational and Recreational Center and its rental rates and usage fees.

Representative Beaulieu offered technical amendments. Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of

9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Marcelle, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Representative Deshotel, District 28, no witness card provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 218.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 218 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 218 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Marcelle, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

House Bill No. 324 by Representative Bryant

Representative Bryant presented House Bill No. 324, which provides relative to access to certain records.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Gadberry, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments to provide an exception for records publically posted by the office of the secretary of state and add an effective date. Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Gadberry, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Catherine Newsome, office of the secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 324.

Scott Sternberg, LPA, no address provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 324.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 324 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 324 was reported by substitute by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Gadberry, Lyons, McMakin, Newell, Thomas, and Wyble voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support.

The committee stood at ease at 11:15 a.m. The committee reconvened at 11:23 a.m.

House Bill No. 406 by Representative Ventrella

Representative Ventrella presented House Bill No. 406, which provides relative to expungement of agency records.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Newell, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Emily Andrews, office of the governor, Louisiana State Capitol, Fourth floor, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 406.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 406 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 406 was reported by substitute by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Newell, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 for information only, and 1 as a designee of an elected official.

The committee stood at ease at 11:40 a.m. The committee reconvened at 11:41 a.m.

House Bill No. 577 by Representative Deshotel

Representative Deshotel presented House Bill No. 577, which provides for the procurement of voting systems.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments to:

1. Provide that legal and contractual remedies for the procurement of voting systems in proposed law shall supersede certain provisions in present law with respect to the procurement code.
2. Terminate provisions of proposed law related to the legal and contractual remedies for the procurement of voting systems on June 30, 2027.
3. Remove provisions of proposed law regarding remedies prior to and after an award of a contract, penalties for violations, and the authority of the secretary of state to review and determine appeals of decisions of the chief procurement officer thereby retaining these provisions in present law.

4. Remove provisions in proposed law providing for legal and contractual remedies that apply to all legal disputes involving procurement and not just disputes involving the procurement of voting systems.
5. Shorten the time period in which the commissioner of administration is required to make a decision on an administrative appeal from 14 days to seven days.
6. Prohibit the seven day time period for the commissioner of administration to make a decision in an administrative appeal from being extended.
7. Make technical changes.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Gadberry, Larvadin, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Nancy Landry, office of the secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 577.

Christy Haik, LRA, 1377 Steele Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 577.

John de la Bretonne, II, 210 Central Avenue, Houma, LA 70364, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 577.

Mari H. Presedo, 4916 Park Hollow Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 577.

Michael Barrett, 1324 East Stanwick Place, no city or state provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 577.

Bert Callais, LACAG, 363 East St. Francis Street, Brusly, LA 70719, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 577.

Christopher Alexander, LACAG, 14567 Steele Boulevard, no city or state provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 577.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 577 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 577 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadin, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Schamerhorn, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, 7 in opposition, and 3 for information only.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 577.

House Bill No. 276 by Representative Berault

Representative Berault presented House Bill No. 276, which authorizes St. Tammany Parish to create and provide for local ethics entities.

Representative Wright offered a motion to report House Bill No. 276 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 276 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Wilford Carter, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Vice Chair Lyons in the chair.

Chair Beaulieu in the chair.

House Bill No. 38 by Representative Bacala

Representative Bacala presented House Bill No. 38, which provides relative to records of prosecutive, investigative, and law enforcement agencies and communications districts.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Add the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to the list of departments and agencies that present law and proposed law applies to.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Mark Cummings, Baton Rouge Police Department, 9000 Airline Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70815, spoke in support of House Bill No. 38.

Scott Sternberg, Louisiana Press Association, no address provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 38.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 38 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 38 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, and 1 for information only.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

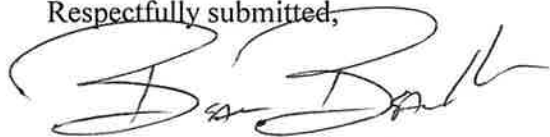
There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Thomas offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Thomas, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chair Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV
House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: