

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2025 Regular Session
May 7, 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 9:40 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 Les Farnum
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Ed Larvadain, III
Representative Rodney Lyons, vice chair
Representative C. Denise Marcelle
Representative Dixon Wallace McMakin
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative Polly Thomas
Representative John E. Wyble

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Mark Wright

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Caroline Vanhooose, clerk
Johnae' Conner, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

The committee stood at ease at 9:40 a.m. The committee reconvened at 9:42 a.m.

House Bill No. 543 by Representative McMahan

Representative McMahan presented House Bill No. 543, which provides relative to the Interstate Dental and Dental Hygiene Licensure Compact.

Representative Beaulieu offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 543. 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, Billings, Farnum, Larvadain, Marcelle, McMakin, Schamerhorn, Thomas, and Wyble voted yea.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 543 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 543 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Larvadain, Marcelle, McMakin, Schamerhorn, Thomas, and Wyble voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 399 by Representative Chenevert

Representative Chenevert presented House Bill No. 399, which provides with respect to the profession of dietetics and dieticians.

Representative Beaulieu offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 399. 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, Farnum, Larvadain, Marcelle, McMakin, Schamerhorn, Thomas, and Wyble voted yea.

Representative Wyble offered a motion to report House Bill No. 399 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 399 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Larvadain, Marcelle, McMakin, Schamerhorn, Thomas, and Wyble 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. 160 by Representative Dickerson

Representative Dickerson presented House Bill No. 160, which provides relative to ethics complaints.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Provide that a non-sworn complaint shall be filed in person with the Board of Ethics at the offices of the board. Further provides that a sworn complaint shall be filed by mail, fax, or uploading the complaint to the website of the Board of Ethics, or by filing in person with the board at the offices of the board.
3. Add requirements for sworn complaints.
4. Add a provision that prohibits retaliation against a complainant and provides for filing a civil action.
5. Restructure the penalty provision in proposed law.

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, Farnum, Larvadain, Marcelle, McMakin, Schamerhorn, Thomas, and Wyble voted yea.

David Bordelon, Louisiana Board of Ethics, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 160.

Steven Procupio, PAR, no address given, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 160.

Representative Farnum offered a motion to report House Bill No. 160 with amendments. Representative Farnum withdrew his motion to report House Bill No. 160 with amendments.

Chair Beaulieu announced that action on House Bill No. 160, which provides relative to ethics complaints, was voluntarily deferred.

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

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 160.

House Bill No. 635 by Representative Bamburg

Representative Bamburg presented House Bill No. 635, which establishes the Creating Holistic Options in Coverage for Enterprise and Self-Insurance (CHOICES) Law.

Representative Beaulieu offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 635. 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, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, and Thomas voted yea.

Claire Lemoine, Louisiana Department of Insurance, 1703 North Third Street, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 635.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 635 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 635 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, and Thomas voted yea.

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

House Concurrent Resolution No. 1 by Representative McMakin

Representative McMakin presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 1, which repeals a provision within an administrative rule relative to the certification and procurement of voting systems.

Representative McMakin offered technical amendments to House Concurrent Resolution No. 1. Representative McMakin 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, Bayham, Billings, Farnum, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, and Thomas voted yea.

Nancy Landry, office of the secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 1.

Representative McMakin offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 1 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 1 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Farnum, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, and Thomas voted yea.

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

House Concurrent Resolution No. 16 by Representative McMakin

Representative McMakin presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 16, which provides for the nongovernmental entity funding request form.

Representative McMakin offered amendments to remove the word "form" in references to funding requests. Representative McMakin 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, Bayham, Billings, Farnum, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative McMakin offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 16 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 16 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Farnum, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, and Thomas voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 15 by Representative Tarver

Representative Tarver presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 15, which provides for limitations on appropriations to nongovernmental entities.

Representative Farnum offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 15 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 15 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, Thomas, and Wyble 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 Resolution No. 2 by Representative Chassion

Representative Chassion presented House Resolution No. 2, which establishes the Freshmen Caucus in the Louisiana House of Representatives.

Representative Wyble offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 2 favorably, to which Representative Thomas objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Resolution No. 2 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, and Wyble voted yea. Representatives Farnum, Schamerhorn, and Thomas voted nay.

House Bill No. 405 by Representative Willard

Representative Willard presented House Bill No. 405, which requires the secretary of state to prepare and publish certain information concerning changes in election law.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 405 favorably. Representative Lyons withdrew his motion to report House Bill No. 405 favorably.

Representative Gadberry in the chair.

Catherine Newsome, office of the secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 405.

Chair Beaulieu in the chair.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 405. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 405 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Schamerhorn, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 405.

House Bill No. 355 by Representative Freeman

On behalf of Representative Freeman, Representative Boyd presented House Bill No. 355, which provides for an exception to post-employment restrictions for sexual assault nurse examiners.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 355 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 355 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 10 in support, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 332 by Representative Larvadain

Representative Larvadain presented House Bill No. 332, which provides relative to the size of the campaign-free zone radius at polling places. Representative Larvadain presented a PowerPoint, which is included in the committee records as Exhibit A.

Max Martin, Power Coalition, 5527 North Afton Parkway, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in support of House Bill No. 332.

Cree Matlock, Power Coalition, 7489 Florida Boulevard, no city or state given, spoke in support of House Bill No. 332.

Representative Larvadain offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 332. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 332 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Thomas, and Wyble voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, and 4 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 332.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Beaulieu announced that House Bill No. 596 by Representative Wright, which provides for revisions to the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act, would be heard at a later date.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Thomas offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Bayham, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Thomas, and Wyble voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Beaulieu", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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

Date adopted: