

House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Minutes of Meeting
2025 Regular Session
May 7, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Brett F. Geymann, chair of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, called the meeting to order at 9:24 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Brett F. Geymann, chair
Representative Jacob Braud
Representative Marcus Anthony Bryant
Representative R. Dewith Carrier
Representative Kimberly Landry Coates
Representative Jason Brian DeWitt
Representative Jessica Domangue
Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Timothy P. Kerner
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Jacob Jules Landry
Representative Shane Mack
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Joseph A. Orgeron, vice chair
Representative Neil Riser
Representative Lauren Ventrella
Representative Jerome Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robin Stalder, attorney
Jennifer Winkler, legislative analyst
Brandy Ladmirault, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms
Danny Leming, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 601 by Representative Geymann**

This is a continuation of the discussion on House Bill No. 601 from the meeting held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025. Please check for the prior action to complete the record of discussion and motions on House Bill No. 601.

Representative Geymann presented House Bill No. 601, which provides relative to carbon dioxide sequestration.

Roland Hollins, Louisiana Co2 Alliance, P.O. Box 32, Mittie, LA 70654, spoke in support of House Bill No. 601.

Don Caffery, Natural Resources Management Association, 822 Harding Street, Suite 307, Lafayette, LA 70503, spoke in support of House Bill No. 601.

Tommy Faucheux, LMOGA, 730 North Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 601.

Jason French, 148 Napoleon Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 601.

Lauren Mastio, Jones Walker, 201 St. Charles Avenue, Suite 4900, New Orleans, LA 70170, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 601.

Representative Geymann offered a motion to report House Bill No. 601 with amendments, to which Representative Orgeron objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 601 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Geymann, Bryant, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Kerner, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, Mack, McCormick, and Ventrella voted yea. Representatives Braud, Domangue, C. Travis Johnson, Orgeron, and Riser voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 27 in support, 29 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 548 by Representative LaCombe

Representative LaCombe presented House Bill No. 548, which provides for the dedication of revenue from carbon dioxide sequestration on state lands and water bottoms.

Major Thibaut, Pointe Coupee Parish, 160 East Main Street, New Roads, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Tony Clayton, 18th JDC, Pointe Coupee Parish, no address provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Guy Cormier, Police Jury Association of Louisiana, 707 North 7th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Cole Garrett, LDWF, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 548.

Representative Jacob Landry offered a motion to invoke the Three-Minute Rule. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Bryant, Carrier, Dewitt, Domangue, C. Travis Johnson, Kerner, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Orgeron, Riser, and Ventrella voted yea.

Malia Baty, We the People, CO2, 1296 Buck Bowles Road, Oberlin, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Walter Pilie', 115 Ducayet Drive, no city and state provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Caleb Atwell, no address provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Chris Daigle, parish president, Iberville Parish, 56430 Highway 404, White Castle, LA 70788, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Charles Kingrey, 136 Highway 383, Kinder, LA 70648, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Kim Goodell, 304 Woodbluff, Lafayette, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Blake Canfield, DENR, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 548.

Representative Dewitt offered a motion to report House Bill No. 548 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 548 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives

Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Domangue, C. Travis Johnson, Kerner, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, McCormick, and Ventrella voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 118 in support, and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 304 by Representative Robby Carter

Representative Robby Carter presented House Bill No. 304, which provides relative to venue for claims involving expropriation for carbon capture.

Justin Marocco, Jones Walker LLP, 445 North Boulevard, Suite 800, no city and state provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 304.

Patrick Riley, Louisiana Chemical Association, 301 Main Street, Suite 2040, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 304.

Charles Kingrey, 136 Highway 383, Kinder, LA 70648, spoke in support of House Bill No. 304.

Roland Hollins, Louisiana Co2 Alliance, P.O. Box 32, Mittie, LA 70654, spoke in support of House Bill No. 304.

Angelle Bradford Rosenberg, Sierra Club Delta Chapter, 1822 Urquhart Street, New Orleans, LA 70116, spoke in support of House Bill No. 304.

J.D. Boggs, 2222 Good Road, Lake Charles, LA 70611, spoke in support of House Bill No. 304.

Blake Canfield, DENR, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 304.

Representative McCormick offered a motion to report House Bill No. 304 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 304 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Domangue, C. Travis Johnson, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Orgeron, Riser, and Ventrella voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 19 in support and 20 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 632 by Representative Riser

Representative Riser presented House Bill No. 632, which protects mineral servitude ownership in relation to carbon dioxide sequestration.

Representative Riser offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 632. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 632 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Domangue, C. Travis Johnson, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Orgeron, Riser, and Ventrella voted yea.

House Bill No. 396 by Representative McCormick

Representative McCormick presented House Bill No. 396, which declares that carbon dioxide sequestration in Louisiana is illegal.

Representative McCormick offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Make carbon dioxide sequestration illegal beneath private property without the property owner's consent.

Representative McCormick offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Domangue, C. Travis Johnson, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Orgeron, Riser, and Ventrella voted yea.

Blake Canfield, DENR, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 396.

Lisa Cothern, 32011 Tiboe Plaza, Springfield, LA 70462, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Kaitlyn Joshua, Eartworks, 12296 Oak Colony Drive, Geismar, LA 70734, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Elizabeth Soychak, 10,000 Women LA, Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate Coalition, 3043 Ponce de Leon Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Ashley Gaignard, Rural Roots Louisiana, 129 Evangeline Drive, no city and state provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

KeeKee Julien-Judson, Rural Roots Louisiana, 11275 Denham Road, Gonzales, LA 70737, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Bert Callais, 363 East St. Francis, Brusly, LA 70719, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Linda Nichols, We The People, Louisiana Small Landowners, 2376 Webster Maricle Road, Pitken, LA 70656, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Michael Nichols, We The People, Louisiana Small Landowners Association, no address provided, Pitken, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Mike Pitt, Sabine Parish, 693 Little Clock Road, Many, LA 71449, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Chris Alexander, Louisiana Citizen Advocacy Group, P.O. Box 64952, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Charles Kingrey, 136 Highway 383, Kinder, LA 70648, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

James Hiatt, For A Better Bayou, P.O. Box 7262, Lake Charles, LA 70606, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Angelle Bradford Rosenberg, Sierra Club Delta Chapter, 1822 Urquhart Street, New Orleans, LA 70116, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Lael Kylia Judson, Rural Roots Louisiana, 11275 Denham Road, Gonzales, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Travis London, Step Up Action, 6680 Hanks Drive #44, Baton Rouge, LA 70812, spoke in support of House Bill No. 396.

Will Green, LABI, 500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 396.

David Cresson, Louisiana Chemical Association, One America Place, Suite 2040, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 396.

Matt Coday, Oil & Gas Workers Association, P.O. Box 114353, Odessa, TX 79768, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 396.

Representative Orgeron in the chair.

Justin Carr, ExxonMobil, 6 West Lake Forest Court, Conroe, TX 77384, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 396.

Anna Johnson, West Baton Rouge Chamber, 7520 LA-1, Addis, LA 70710, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 396.

Ray Gregson, River Region Chamber of Commerce, 390 Belle Terre Boulevard, Laplace, LA 70068, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 396.

Representative Orgeron in the chair.

Representative McCormick offered a motion to report House Bill No. 396 with amendments, to which Representative Orgeron objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 3 yeas, 8 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Carrier, Dewitt, and McCormick voted yea. Representatives Braud, Domangue, C. Travis Johnson, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, Orgeron, Riser, and Zeringue voted nay. Representative Geymann abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 19 in support, and 29 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 585 by Representative McCormick

Representative McCormick presented House Bill No. 585, which requires advance notice to surface and mineral owners prior to permitting or performing carbon dioxide sequestration activities.

Representative McCormick offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 585. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 585 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Dewitt, Domangue, C. Travis Johnson, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Orgeron, Riser, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 75 by Representative McCormick

Representative Geymann offered a motion to invoke the Two-Minute Rule. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Dewitt, Domangue, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, McCormick, Orgeron, Riser, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative McCormick presented House Bill No. 75, which provides relative to compensation for pore space owners.

Representative McCormick offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Add a new proposed law provision requiring a unit operator to compensate nonconsenting mineral owners within the unit for the value of their stranded minerals or reimburse them for the additional material costs, as required by the department, to drill through the plume.

- (3) Change the minimum per acre compensation required from the maximum per acre compensation received by any owner in interest in the unit to the average per acre compensation received by all other owners in interest.
- (4) Make the minimum per acre compensation requirement applicable to non-consenting owners in interest only.

Representative McCormick offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Domangue, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, Mack, McCormick, Orgeron, Riser, and Zeringue voted yea.

Blake Canfield, DENR, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 75.

Representative Geymann offered an amendment that originated in committee to specify that a non-consenting owner in interest shall not be compensated with an amount per acre which is less than the average compensation paid per acre to all other owners in a storage unit. Representative Geymann offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendment. Without objection, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Domangue, LaCombe, Mack, McCormick, Orgeron, Riser, and Zeringue voted yea.

Kim Goodell, 304 Woodbluff Drive, Lafayette, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 75.

Roland Hollins, Louisiana Co2 Alliance, P.O. Box 32, Mittie, LA 70654, spoke in support of House Bill No. 75.

Michael Nichols, We The People, no address provided, Pitken, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 75.

Bryan Hanks, LOGA, 114 Kings Walk, Lafayette, LA 70503, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 75 and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Thomas Smart, LOGA, 400 Kaliste Saloom, Suite 3000, Lafayette, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 75.

Brett Venn, Jones Walker LLP, 201 St. Charles Avenue, Suite 5100, New Orleans, LA 70170, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 75.

Representative McCormick offered a motion to report House Bill No. 75 with amendments, to which Representative Orgeron objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 75 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud,

Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Jacob Landry, Mack, McCormick, and Riser voted yea. Representatives Domangue, LaCombe, Orgeron, and Zeringue voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 17 in support, and 24 in opposition. 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 Jacob Landry offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Domangue, LaCombe, Jacob Landry, Mack, McCormick, Orgeron, Riser, and Zeringue voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Brett F. Geymann
House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Date adopted: