

House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
2026 Regular Session
March 25, 2026

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 9:08 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 Beth Anne Billings
Representative Delisha Boyd
Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Michael T. Johnson
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 Joy Walters
Representative Mark Wright
Representative John E. Wyble

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Polly Thomas

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

House Bill No. 338 by Representative Carver

Representative Carver presented House Bill No. 338, which re-creates entities transferred to or placed within the office of the governor.

Representative Wyble offered a motion to report House Bill No. 338 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 338 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Farnum, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, Larvadain, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wyble voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 379 by Representative Carver

Representative Carver presented House Bill No. 379, which provides relative to the qualifications of election commissioners.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 379 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 379 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Farnum, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Wyble voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 861 by Representative Mike Johnson

Representative Mike Johnson presented House Bill No. 861, which provides relative to the status of inactive boards and commissions in Louisiana.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments to:

- (1) Make technical changes.
- (2) Remove the following boards and commissions from proposed law:
 - (a) Ambulance Service District Commission.
 - (b) Commission on Uniform State Laws.
 - (c) Criminal Justice Priority Funding Commission Program.
 - (d) First Responders Subcommittee.
 - (e) Interoperability Subcommittee.
 - (f) Intrastate Mutual Aid Subcommittee.
 - (g) Louisiana Natural Resources Trust Authority.
 - (h) Louisiana Tax Institute.
 - (i) Medical Disclosure Panel.
- (3) Add provisions repealing the following boards and commissions:
 - (a) Energy Code Commission.
 - (b) Equal Pay Commission.
 - (c) Louisiana Juvenile Jurisdiction Planning and Implementation Committee.
 - (d) Louisiana Quincentenary Commission.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Farnum, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wyble voted yea.

Emily Andrews, office of the governor of Louisiana, 900 North Third Street, Fourth Floor, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke as the designee of an elected official on House Bill No. 861 and provided a

handout, "Annual Report to the Legislature: Boards, Commissions, and Like Entities", labeled Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Mike Johnson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 861 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 861 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Farnum, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wyble voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 202 by Representative McMakin

Representative McMakin presented House Bill No. 202, which provides relative to job advertisement requirements and notice to applicants.

Representative McMakin offered amendments to provide that proposed law applies to classified positions instead of unclassified positions. Representative McMakin offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Schamerhorn, Walters, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Byron Decoteau, Jr., State Civil Service, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 202.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 202 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 202 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, McMakin, Newell, Schamerhorn, Walters, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 547 by Representative Thomas

Vice Chair Lyons in the chair.

On behalf of Representative Thomas, Representative Beaulieu presented House Bill No. 547, which provides for election offenses.

Representative Beaulieu offered amendments to provide that proposed law shall not apply to a person who is performing his duties as a clerk of court or an employee of a clerk, an election day or early voting commissioner, a registrar of voters or an employee of a registrar, or the secretary of state or an employee of the secretary of state. Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Walters, 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. 547.

Sherri Hadskey, office of the secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 547.

Catherine Newsome, office of the secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 547.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 547 with amendments, to which Representative Marcelle objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 547 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Farnum, Gadberry, Schamerhorn, Wright, and Wyble voted yea. Representatives Boyd, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, and Walters voted nay.

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

House Bill No. 691 by Representative Beaulieu

The committee stood at ease at 10:41 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:47 a.m.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to adopt 3 minute rule for questions from members and witness testimony. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Boyd, Farnum, Gadberry, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Walters, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

Representative Beaulieu presented House Bill No. 691, which provides for the verification of citizenship of registered voters.

Representative Beaulieu offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 691. 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, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Walters, 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. 691.

Catherine Newsome, office of the secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 691.

Melissa Flournoy, 10,000 Women, 650 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 691.

Sarah Whittington, Louisiana American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), P.O. Box 56157, New Orleans, LA 70156, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 691.

Max Martin, Power Coalition, 6061 Hibiscus Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 691.

Mary Anne Mushatt, League of Women Voters of Louisiana, 6030 South Robertson Street, New Orleans, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 691.

Chandra Shae Foster, Southern Poverty Law Center, 201 St. Charles Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 691.

Checo Yancy, Voice of the Experienced (VOTE), 251 Florida Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 691.

Sara Louis-Ayo, 13632 House of Lancaster Drive, no city or state provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 691.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 691 with amendments, to which Representative Wilford Carter objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 691 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Farnum, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, McMakin, Schamerhorn, Wright, and Wyble voted yea. Representatives Boyd, Wilford Carter, Larvadain, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, and Walters voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, and 11 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 691.

House Bill No. 908 by Representative Mena

Chair Beaulieu in the chair.

Representative Mena presented House Bill No. 908, which provides with respect to certain fees charged by the secretary of state.

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 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, 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. 908.

Amanda Baker, office of the secretary of state, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 908.

Representative Beaulieu offered a motion to report House Bill No. 908 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 908 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Schamerhorn, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 843 by Representative Boyd

Representative Boyd presented House Bill No. 843, which creates the Sexual Assault Survivor Empowerment and Privacy Protection Act.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 843 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 843 was reported by substitute by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Gadberry, Mike Johnson, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Newell, Schamerhorn, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

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

House Resolution No. 15 by Representative Wyble

Representative Wyble presented House Resolution No. 15, which memorializes the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to pass the SAVE America Act.

Max Martin, Power Coalition, 6061 Hibiscus Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 15.

Checo Yancy, VOTE, 251 Florida Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 15.

Melissa Flournoy, 10,000 Women, 650 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 15.

Sarah Whittington, Louisiana ACLU, P.O. Box 56152, New Orleans, LA 70156, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 15.

Tia Fields, 3609 Coolidge Street, Baker, LA 70714, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 15.

Representative Wyble offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 15 favorably, to which Representative Wilford Carter objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Resolution No. 15 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Farnum, Gadberry, McMakin, Schamerhorn, Wright, and Wyble voted yea. Representatives Boyd, Wilford Carter, Larvadain, Lyons, and Newell voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 12 in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Beaulieu announced that action on House Bill No. 206 by Representative Green, which authorizes legislators to attend meetings of an entity for which membership is subject to legislative confirmation, was voluntarily deferred.

Chair Beaulieu announced that action on House Resolution No. 9 by Representative Owens, which requests the government of the United Kingdom to continue its commitment to the foundational principles of individual liberties as enshrined in the Magna Carta, was voluntarily deferred.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Newell offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Beaulieu, Billings, Boyd, Wilford Carter, Farnum, Gadberry, Larvadain, Lyons, McMakin, Newell, Schamerhorn, Wright, and Wyble voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: