

**STATE BOARD OF NURSING
17373 PERKINS ROAD
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70810**

MINUTES OF THE MAY 22, 2020 EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING

Call to Order: An Emergency Board Meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order by T. Cotita, President, on Friday, May 22, 2020, at 2:06 p.m. via teleconference pursuant to Governor Edwards' Proclamation Number 52-JBE-2020, Section 4, which allows all state agencies, boards and commissions to provide for attendance at essential government meeting via teleconference during the Covid-19 public health emergency. A written certification indicating same was posted on the LSBN website and in the building lobby.

Roll Call: The following Board members were in attendance:

Tim Cotita, MSHCE, RN, President
Laura Bonanno, DNP, CRNA, Vice President
Tavell Kindall, DNP, APRN, Alternate Officer
Ann Carruth, DNS, RN
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE
Jennifer Manning, DNS, APRN, CNS, CNE
Tracey Moffatt, MHA, BSN, RN
Jamie Wiggins, MS, RN, FACHE

The following Board member was not in attendance:
Kenneth Alexander, MS, RRT (Recused)

The following staff members were in attendance:
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, MBA, NEA-BC, Executive Director/CEO
Isonel Brown, MS, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer
Patricia Dufrene, PhD, RN, Director of Education and Examination
Jennifer Wright, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, Chief Nursing Officer
Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, MBA, Chief Legal Officer/General Counsel
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter

Dr. Lyon reported that Hospital Bill 320 was put forward at the request of the Louisiana Hospital Association (LHA). This Bill would add two members to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN), who would be appointed by the governor from a list of names submitted by the LHA.

The Bill was presented in the House Health and Welfare Committee on May 6, 2020 and passed the Committee. It was presented to the full house on May 15, 2020 and passed. It was sent to Senate Health and Welfare where it was discussed on May 20th of this week.

The Bill was deferred after significant objections were presented. Senator Mills asked for the groups to get together and try to come to a mutual agreement regarding the opposition to the Bill.

Dr. Lyon received a call in February from Paul Salas informing her that the Board for the LHA had voted to put this bill forward. Mr. Salas did not present a sponsor for the Bill, stating that the Board had already voted. Dr. Lyon expressed her concerns to Mr. Salas.

This Bill will come back to the Senate Committee on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 and be heard again, which will be the last opportunity for it to be heard in Committee.

Dr. Lyon requested direction from the Board as to how they would like her to proceed in terms of testimony before the Senate Health and Welfare.

Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following individuals spoke in opposition to HB 320:

Dr. Patrick Reed, President, LSNA
Dr. Ecoee Rooney, President-Elect, LSNA
Dr. Thea Ducrow, Executive Director, LSNA
Ms. Lisa Deaton, LSNA
Dr. Patricia Labrosse, LSNA
Ms. Terrie Sterling, Independent Nursing Consultant
Dr. Charlotte Johnson, Faculty member, Dillard University
Dr. Deborah Ford, Our Lady of the Lake Hospital
Ms. A. Burks, LSNA
Ms. Coletta Barrett, LSNA
Ms. Mary Dudley, RN member of the public
Ms. Sophia Solomon, Our Lady of the Lake Hospital

Dr. Lyon has requested to speak at the meeting and represent the Board's point of view. Everyone was encouraged to try and be there, but if they were not able to be present, that they should email comments to Senator Mills' office as he will read them into the record, also to call all members of the Senate Health and Welfare between now and next Wednesday to express opposition.

Motion: by T. Kindall, seconded, that the Board does not support adding additional members to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing at this time.

Voice Vote: L. Bonanno-yes; A. Carruth-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; T. Cotita-yes;
T. Kindall-yes; T. Moffatt-yes; J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: by T. Kindall, seconded, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.



**TIM COTITA, PRESIDENT
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING**