

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Minutes of Meeting
2005 Regular Session
June 15, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Carl Crane, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in Committee Room 1, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Carl Crane, Chairman
Representative Ernie Alexander
Representative Austin Badon
Representative Regina Barrow
Representative A.G. Crowe
Representative Hollis Downs
Representative Jim Fannin
Representative Hunter Greene
Representative Lelon Kenney
Representative Henry "Tank" Powell
Representative Mike Powell
Representative Harold Ritchie
Representative Don Trahan
Representative Tommy Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Avon Honey, Vice Chairman

III. STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Jones, Research Analyst
Nancy Yelverton Jolly, Research Analyst
Jackie Snowden, Secretary
Brandy Snowden, Clerk
Beverly Vincent and Darrell Augustine, Sergeant at Arms

IV. DISCUSSION

Senate Bill No. 214 by Senator Barham

Senate Bill No. 214 adjusts Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) and exit examination requirements for certain public school students.

Senator Barham explained that the bill attempts to address a real-life problem being experienced in allowing students to show their achievements. He described the plight of a group of students who have the capacity to learn and excel, but who have problems performing to high levels on standardized tests. He noted that at least three percent of these students have been identified. Senator Barham explained that the students are clinically diagnosed with a learning disability and given special compensation as they are educated through the normal school year to demonstrate their learning capacity, with some making the honor roll. He explained further that when the high stakes tests are administered, this group is unable to transmit knowledge to the tests. He described Senate Bill No. 214 as an effort to work with the state Department of Education to develop an alternative.

Supporting the legislation were Dr. Scott Norton and Ms. Virginia Beridon, representing the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), 1201 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-3602; Mr. Lee Faucette, representing the Louisiana Association of School Executives, (225) 261-5560; Mr. Byron Stewart, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 69-3191; Mr. Ferdinand Troullier, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037; and Mr. Randy Moore, representing the Louisiana Association of Principals, 2005 Hwy. 563, Simsboro, LA 71275, (318) 247-6733.

Dr. Norton stated that the department was supportive of the legislation and had been working for several months on a new test that will impact what is called "the two percent kids". He noted that BESE is also in the process of taking action that would be supportive of these tests.

Representative Downs moved that Senate Bill No. 214 be reported favorably. There was no objection, and Senate Bill No. 214 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Barrow, Crane, Downs, Fannin, Kenney, Mike Powell, Tank Powell, Ritchie, and Trahan voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58 by Senator Theunissen

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58 requests the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the state Department of Education to support, promote, and expand the Teacher Advancement Program (TAP) in public schools.

Senator Theunissen explained that under the TAP model, good teachers can earn higher salaries and advance professionally without leaving the classroom. He introduced persons who are involved in successful programs in the state to tell more about the program.

Ms. Suzanne B. Landry, representing the Association of Professional Educators of Louisiana (A+PEL), 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-4005, stated that the group was present to urge and request the state Department of Education and the state of Louisiana to support TAP and expand and promote it. She explained that TAP was a model that allowed teachers to learn and teach simultaneously. She noted that there was room for master teachers, mentor teachers, and an accompanying pay scale. She asked Ms. Nancy Hammatt, who is currently using the TAP model in her school, to make further comments.

Senator Theunissen informed committee members that he had visited the school and commended Ms. Hammatt for doing a great job.

Ms. Hammatt, representing Cedarcrest-Southmoor Elementary School, 10187 Twin Cedars St., Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 293-9950, introduced a teacher from her school who has recently been recognized as a Milken Family Foundation national educator, Ms. Vickie Candalary.

Ms. Hammatt described the TAP concept as one that promotes professional development in a professional learning community at a school, encompassing a climate for learning that includes research-based strategies. She stated that for two hours per week, teachers are allowed to meet in cluster groups to talk about instruction. She said that TAP provides a way for the teachers to carry out their responsibilities smarter and better. Ms. Hammatt explained that the research-based program has enabled tremendous growth in new career teachers and in master teachers. She stressed that their main goal is student achievement. TAP has allowed for increased achievement with the influx of quality teachers as a result of the new and exciting professional development. Ms. Hammatt described the following steps used as part of the program: (1) identifying student problems and needs; (2) obtaining new learning strategies or techniques to address the problem or need; and (3) applying the new learning to the individual teacher's classes. She pointed out that TAP requires follow-up and each participating teacher is observed constantly.

Senator Theunissen commented that Ms. Hammatt's presentation is an example of the enthusiasm and energy within her school, Cederscrest Elementary. He said the program drives this enthusiasm.

Representative Tank Powell stated that it was long overdue that the state should compensate those teachers who are willing to put forth the extra effort to better prepare themselves to become better teachers. He said teachers who perform and go the extra mile should be rewarded.

Ms. Kathy Mouton, representing BESE, 1201 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-3602, stated that BESE vigorously supports the TAP program. She informed committee members that the program originally began with five schools, expanded to Calcasieu Parish, and has since expanded to various school districts across the state.

In response to a question from Representative Ernie Alexander about how achievement is measured, Ms. Landry stated that an involved process is used including a research program established by a noted Tennessee researcher, a pre-test and post-test value added concept that measures growth per teacher/per year/per student.

Committee members commended the teachers for their extraordinary efforts.

Representative Crane announced that there were amendments at the desk. Ms. Nancy Jolly, committee legislative analyst, explained that the amendments were technical. Representative Crane offered the amendments and moved that they be adopted. There was no objection, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Barrow, Crane, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Mike Powell, Tank Powell, Ritchie, and Trahan voted yea.

Also supporting the resolution were Ms. Vicky Candalary, representing teachers of Cedarcrest-Southmoor Elementary, 10187 Twin Cedars, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 293-9950; Ms. Polly Broussard, representing the Association of Professional Educators of Louisiana (A+PEL), 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-4005; Mr. Lee Faucette, representing the Louisiana Association of School Executives, (225) 261-5560; Mr. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, 3113 Valley Creek Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388; and Mr. Randy Moore, representing the Louisiana Association of Principals, 2005 Hwy. 563, Simsboro, LA 71675, (318) 247-6733.

Representative Barrow moved that Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58 be reported with amendments. There was no objection, and Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Badon, Barrow, Crane, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Tank Powell, Ritchie, and Trahan voted yea.

House Resolution No. 108 by Representative Faucheux

House Resolution No. 108 requests the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), in consultation with the Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission, to study the need for and benefits of BESE developing and implementing a uniform grading scale and system in Louisiana public and state-approved nonpublic high schools for purposes of certain Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) eligibility determinations.

Representative Faucheux presented the bill to the committee. He stated that the resolution is brought in an attempt to have every student throughout the state treated equally when grades are computed.

Available to provide information if requested were Mr. George Eldredge, general counsel, representing the Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission, 1885 Wooddale, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 922-0597; and Ms. Nancy Beben, representing BESE, 1201 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-3602.

Representative Kenney moved that House Resolution No. 108 be reported favorably. There was no objection, and House Resolution No. 108 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Barrow, Crane, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Tank Powell, Ritchie, and Trahan voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 264 by Senator C. D. Jones

Senate Bill No. 264 provides incentives for certified classroom teachers who work in certain schools in disadvantaged geographical areas.

Senator Jones commented to committee members that last year legislation was passed to provide a homebuyer program as an incentive to attract teachers to areas where there was a low percentage of certified teachers. He passed out a document containing the results of a 2005 study performed to evaluate the need to recruit and retain certified and highly qualified teachers in the Louisiana Delta and other areas of the state. He referred committee members to that section of the document that showed the number of certified teachers in the parishes he represents. Senator Jones stated that the study revealed that the shortage of certified teachers in the Louisiana Delta region is the highest in the state. The study also revealed the

low percentage of salaries commensurate with being certified. He pointed out that the area is the poorest in the state, with East Carroll and surrounding parishes having the highest percentage of its children participating in the free and reduced lunch program. Senator Jones explained that the bill would implement an incentive to attract and retain certified teachers into the disadvantaged areas.

Senator Jones reported that the area needs 200 certified teachers in the area and 800 highly qualified teachers to comply with No Child Left Behind.

Mr. Byron Stewart, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 769-3191, stated that the organization fully supports Senator Jones' efforts to bring attention to an area that has been impacted because of a lack of certified teachers. He noted that geographically, the area is in proximity to the Mississippi and Arkansas borders and those states continually recruit the certified teachers. Mr. Stewart said the problem needs attention.

Representative Crane announced that amendments were at the desk. Mr. Paul Jones, committee legislative analyst, presented the amendments. The amendments add specifics to areas that will be supported, expand the pool level from which qualified teachers can be drawn, and return BESE to the mix so that the state superintendent, as a part of the advisory panel, is accountable to BESE and not an advisory panel that is outside the purview of BESE. Mr. Jones noted that in addition to the substantive amendments explained by Representative Crane, there were also a number of technical amendments. Representative Trahan offered the amendments. Representative Trahan moved that the amendments be adopted. There was no objection, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Barrow, Crane, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Tank Powell, Ritchie, and Trahan voted yea.

In response to a question from Representative Kenney regarding the time frame within which Louisiana must comply with No Child Left Behind stipulations for certified teachers, Ms. Nancy Jolly, committee legislative analyst, responded that the act requires that all teachers become highly qualified by the 2005-2006 school year.

Representative Trahan commended Senator Jones for his efforts to strengthen the most disadvantaged and poorest areas of the state, but asked where the funding would be found. Senator Jones responded that the bill offers certain incentives to attract good teachers along with an amendment that is pending before the House appropriations committee and the Senate finance committee to provide additional funding in the amount of \$1 million to administer the bill.

Speaking in support of the legislation was Mr. Alphonse Jackson, representing the Hurst Group, P.O. Box 2806, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 405-6540. He suggested that a new component be included in the minimum foundation program (MFP) that addresses poverty, because it is the root of many of the problems that confront this area of the state. Additionally, he said teachers should be backed by in-service education, patterned after successful programs of this kind in the country. Mr. Jackson also suggested that teacher education programs in the state be revamped.

Also supporting the legislation were Mr. Ernest H. Lampkins, mayor, Town of Greenwood, LA, 9381 Greenwood Rd., Greenwood, LA 71033, (318) 938-7261; Mr. Lee Faucette, representing the Louisiana Association of School Executives, (225) 261-5560; Mr. Ferdinand Troullier, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers; and Mr. Randy Moore, representing the Louisiana Association of Principals, Simsboro, LA 71275, (318) 247-6733.

Available to provide information, if requested, were Mr. Stan Beaufouef, representing BESE, 1201 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-3602; and Ms. Jeanne DeVille, representing BESE, 1201 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-3602.

Representative Tank Powell moved that Senate Bill No. 264 be reported with amendments. There was no objection, and Senate Bill No. 264 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Badon, Crane, Crowe, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Tank Powell, Ritchie, Trahan, and Wright voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 63 by Senator C. D. Jones

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 63 requests the Board of Regents to study and develop a comprehensive plan for development of the Northeast Louisiana Delta Learning Center.

Senator Jones indicated that a bill was passed last year to create the learning center. He said this resolution requests the Board of Regents to develop a comprehensive plan for the center.

Mr. Jimmy Clarke, deputy commissioner of higher education for academic and student affairs, state Board of Regents, (225) 342-4253, stated that the Regents supported the resolution and agreed that a study of the educational needs of the region needed to be studied along with determining how effective a learning center can be in terms of doing what is expected to be done in the Delta region.

Representative Crane announced that technical amendments needed to be adopted. Ms. Nancy Jolly, committee legislative analyst, explained the nature of the technical amendments. Representative Crane commented that they were grammatical in nature.

Representative Crane offered the amendments and moved that they be adopted. There was no objection, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Badon, Crane, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Tank Powell, Ritchie, Trahan, and Wright voted yea.

Supporting the resolution was Mr. Alphonse Jackson, representing the Hurst Group, P.O. Box 2826, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 405-6540.

Also supporting the resolution were the Rev. Charlie Trimble, Jr., representing the Madison Parish Baptist Association and the Baptist Ministers Fellowship, 926 Holt St., Tallulah, LA 71282, (318) 574-4689; Ms. Gloria Hayden, representing the Tallulah City Council, 411 Gayle St., Tallulah, LA 71282, (318) 574-5828; Ms. Kim Detarline, representing the Delta Coalition for Education and Economic Development, (504) 251-0470; Mr. Chuck Hayden, representing the Tallulah School Board, 411 Gayle St., Tallulah, LA 71282, (318) 574-5825; and Mr. Ferdinand Troullier, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers.

Representative Tank Powell moved that Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 63 be reported with amendments. There was no objection, and Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 63 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Badon, Crane, Crowe, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Mike Powell, Tank Powell, Ritchie, Trahan, and Wright voted yea.

House Bill No. 704 by Representative Gray

House Bill No. 704 expands the Louisiana Medical Complex at New Orleans to include Xavier University.

Representative Gray explained that the complex has been in existence since 1960 and abuts Xavier University. She stated that it was time to pull Xavier in as partners with Charity Hospital, LSU, and Tulane universities, all current members of the complex.

Accompanying Representative Gray to answer questions was Mr. Rodney Braxton, representing the city of New Orleans, (225) 342-8301. He informed the committee that the Medical Complex was a geographical, loose configuration of universities, Charity Hospital, and the medical industry set up in an attempt to develop the medical industry in New Orleans. The bill would add Xavier University to the advisory board of the complex. He said Xavier has a strong connection to the medical industry and research through its pharmacy program.

Representative Gray informed committee members that Xavier University was the only African-American Catholic university in the country; housing the number one pharmacy

school in the nation in terms of the number of African-American graduates and African-Americans who leave and enter medical school.

Supporting the legislation were Ms. Mary Ann Coleman, representing the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, 320 Third St., Suite 104, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 389-9885 and Mr. Alphonse Jackson, representing the Hurst Group, P.O. Box 2826, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 405-6540.

Representative Badon moved that House Bill No. 704 be reported favorably. There was no objection, and House Bill No. 704 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Badon, Crane, Crowe, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Mike Powell, Tank Powell, Ritchie, Trahan, and Wright voted yea.

House Bill No. 575 by Representative Marchand

House Bill No. 575 prohibits not promoting or graduating any student solely based on the student's performance on any Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) tests, including the graduation test.

Representative Marchand presented the bill to the committee. She was accompanied by Ms. Assata Olugbala, representing Parents for Educational Justice, 5043 Press Dr., New Orleans, LA 70126, (504) 282-4496, and Ms. Patricia A. Robinson, parent of a student with a learning disability, P.O. Box 26952, New Orleans, LA 70186, or 3030 Morrice Duncan Dr., New Orleans, LA 70126, (504) 947-4099.

Representative Marchand announced that they were present to discuss the LEAP exam and the graduation exit exam (GEE). She stated that currently all students, including those with a disability, take the tests with the scores being counted and used to determine school performance scores. Representative Marchand commented about the students who experience anxiety when taking the test. She also noted that a core curriculum has not been implemented across the state that would equip students with the adequate knowledge to pass the tests. She pointed out that there did not exist an adequate supply of resources, textbooks, computers, etc. Representative Marchand said the lack of resources hinders some students and makes passing the test a difficult task. She said the bill does not provide for the elimination of the LEAP exam, but provides that it be used as an addition to the grades made during the school year. She pointed out that states that were administering LEAP exams as high stakes tests have taken it out of the position of pass or fail and utilize the students' grades in addition to the LEAP.

Ms. Olugbala emphasized that the bill does not provide for the elimination of the LEAP tests. She stated that the standardized testing component currently in place in the state is appropriate, but it is not appropriate to be used as a single source to determine whether a child should be passed to the next grade or promoted. She stressed that this premise is held by numerous educational professional organizations and she named a large number of such organizations. She pointed out that their position is similar to what House Bill No. 575 provides, that the test not be used to make the determination of whether a child should be promoted or graduate. Ms. Olugbala stated as well that another problem is that the test is given in the second week of March, after which there are nine weeks of teaching and learning to follow. She expressed concern that after the test is administered, there is a perception that teaching and learning should cease. She noted that something is needed during this time to make the student accountable. Ms. Olugbala said the LEAP test has negatively impacted children. She reasoned that if the best practice for using the test can be approached, the results will be significantly better.

Ms. Robinson, a native of the Desire development in New Orleans, related to committee members the situation she is experiencing with her child, a 16-year-old with a learning disability. She told committee members that her child could not grasp or retain information like other students. She asked that the committee consider not making the test the sole determiner of whether a child passes or fails in school.

Also supporting the legislation were Mayor Ernest H. Lampkins, Ph.D, Town of Greenwood, Greenwood, LA 71033, (318) 938-1070; Ms. Wealthia L. Jackson, 11115 Sandwood Dr., Keithville, LA 71047, (318) 925-3864; Ms. Mary Fontenot, representing All Congregations Together, 2301 Gallier, New Orleans, LA, (504) 495-5338; and Rev. C. Trimble, Jr., Delta Interfaith, 926 Holt St., Tallulah, LA 71282, (318) 574-4689.

Opposing the legislation were Dr. Robin Jarvis and Dr. Scott Norton, representing the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), 1201 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-3602; and Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, 3113 Valley Creek Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

Dr. Jarvis stated that the proposed law would allow LEAP and the GEE to continue and would continue the provisions for remediation. On the other hand, Dr. Jarvis said the bill would not allow BESE to require that LEAP test scores and the GEE be used as the criteria for promoting and graduating students. She commented that since high stakes testing began, continual improvement in the passage rates of students has been witnessed. Dr. Jarvis revealed the following statistics: In 1999, 35% of students were unsatisfactory on the assessments in fourth grade mathematics; in 2004, this score was down to 22%. In eighth grade math, 40% of the students were unsatisfactory in 1999; this was down to 23% in 2004.

Dr. Jarvis said high school results were similar. She added these numbers for the graduation exit exam: In math, 35% of students were unsatisfactory during the first year of the test in 2000; the score was down to 23% in 2004. On the science exam, 28% were unsatisfactory in 2001 and 19% in 2004. Dr. Jarvis noted that a rise in school performance scores has also occurred. The school performance scores are based on these assessments. Dr. Jarvis informed committee members that once a student scores unsatisfactory or does not meet the requirements for promotion, the state funds remediation for these students during the summer. She stated that the remediation has had a positive impact. She said that in 2004, over 6,000 fourth graders passed LEAP after remediation. Dr. Jarvis also informed committee members about other resources and documents that are available to students through the state Department of Education's website. She stated that it would be a disservice to students to return to policies that allowed them to be promoted without showing that they have met a certain standard. Dr. Jarvis emphasized that social promotion does not help children nor does it prepare them for the workforce or help the economic development efforts in the state. She added that children need to have basic math and literacy skills to graduate from high school and work in the workforce. She said it was critical that the high school diploma has meaning behind it that shows that the student has mastered a certain level of skill.

Relative to the study with a learning disability, Dr. Jarvis shared with committee members information about the alternative assessment that is offered for severely cognitively disabled children. She added that the department is currently working on a second assessment at fourth, eighth, tenth, and eleventh grades to be offered during the spring, 2006, which will be available for students who are functioning three grade levels behind.

Ms. Brigitte Nieland testified that the LEAP testing program is the cornerstone of the state accountability program. She said it ensures that a student has the knowledge and skills to succeed in the next grade. Ms. Nieland stated that it does children no service to be promoted to a grade where the odds of being successful are stacked against them. She said the LEAP and GEE failure rates are too high. Ms. Nieland added that the state is nationally recognized for its accountability system and instead of turning back the clock she urged the committee to stay on course to continued growth.

Also opposing the legislation were Ms. Veronica Howard, representing the governor's office, (225) 342-1864; Mr. Byron Stewart, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 769-3191; Mr. Randy Moore, representing the Louisiana Association of Principals, 2005 Hwy. 563, Simsboro, LA 71275, (318) 247-6733; Mr. Lee Faucette, representing the Louisiana Association of School Executives, (225) 261-5560; and Mr. Tom Tate, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, P.O. Box 479, Baton Rouge, LA (225) 343-9243.

Representative Crane announced that there were amendments at the desk. The amendments, proposed by Representative Wright, would retain LEAP testing for students in grades four and nine and eliminate the graduation exit exam as a determiner of whether or not a student graduates from high school. Representative Wright offered the amendments and moved that they be adopted. There was an objection, and the secretary called the roll. The motion to adopt the amendments failed by a vote of 1 yea and 11 nays. Representative Wright voted yea, and Representatives Ernie Alexander, Badon, Barrow, Crane, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Tank Powell, Ritchie, and Trahan voted nay.

In closing, Representative Marchand pointed out that the rural and under served areas of the state are still without the means to access the resources made available by the state Department of Education. She added that not only are the resources inaccessible, but the homes of many students are without direction due to the work schedule of parents. She noted as well the mention of the increase in the number of students who pass the various tests, but no mention of the increase in the dropout rate. As a result of this increase, increases have also been documented in the crime rate. Representative Marchand said she does believe students can pass the test and that the LEAP and GEE are good tests but are being used in the wrong way. She stressed that the test needs to be used as an assessment tool along with the regular grades, attendance, and class participation.

Representative Downs moved that action on House Bill No. 575 be involuntarily deferred. There was an objection, and the secretary called the roll. The motion that action on House Bill No. 575 be involuntarily deferred passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Crane, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Tank Powell, Ritchie, and Trahan voted yea, and Representatives Badon, Barrow, and Wright voted nay.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 80 by Representative Thompson

House Concurrent Resolution No. 90 requests the University of Louisiana system board of supervisors to study the feasibility of establishing a university laboratory school on or near the University of Louisiana at Monroe campus.

Representative Kenney presented the resolution on behalf of Representative Thompson.

Representative Alexander moved that House Concurrent Resolution No. 80 be reported favorably. There was no objection, and House Concurrent Resolution No. 80 passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Ernie Alexander, Badon, Barrow, Crane, Downs, Fannin, Greene, Kenney, Tank Powell, Ritchie, Trahan, and Wright voted yea.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business for discussion.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Austin J. Badon, Jr., Chairman

The committee has acknowledged on _____, that these minutes were prepared in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives.