

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Minutes of Meeting
Regular Session, 2012
April 4, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stephen F. Carter, Chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 8:57 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 Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
Representative Patrick O. Jefferson, Vice Chairman
Representative Wesley T. Bishop
Representative Christopher Broadwater
Representative Henry L. Burns
Representative Thomas Carmody
Representative Simone Champagne
Representative John Bel Edwards
Representative Cameron Henry
Representative Paul B. Hollis
Representative Nancy Landry
Representative Edward J. Price
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative John M. Schroder
Representative Robert E. Shadoin
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jeff R. Thompson
Representative Alfred C. Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

III. STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Jones, Legislative Analyst
Nancy Y. Jolly, Legislative Analyst
Jackie Snowden, Secretary
Beverly Vincent and Suzie Broussard, Sergeant at Arms

IV. DISCUSSION

House Bill No. 818 by Representative St. Germain

House Bill No. 818 creates the Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Commission within Louisiana State University and provides for its powers and duties.

Representative St. Germain presented the bill to the committee. She was accompanied by Mr. H. Butch Browning, State Fire Marshall, who presented information in support of the bill. Also supporting the bill was Mr. Boyd Westbrook, representing the Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association, 6035 Hagerstown, Baton Rouge, LA. Available to present information was Mr. Mike Martin, chancellor, Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge, (225) 921-0021.

Representative Carter announced that amendments were pending. Ms. Nancy Jolly, committee legislative analyst, explained that the amendments made technical changes only. Representative Carter offered the amendments and moved that they be adopted. There was no objection, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Landry, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative St. Germain closed on the bill.

Representative Champagne moved that House Bill No. 818 be reported with amendments. There was no objection, and House Bill No. 818 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Landry, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 833 by Representative Norton

House Bill No. 833 provides for early dismissal from public elementary and secondary schools under certain conditions.

Representative Carter announced that the author of the legislation has requested that it be voluntarily deferred. Representative Carter moved that action on House Bill No. 833 be voluntarily deferred. There was no objection, and the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Landry, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 834 by Representative Norton

House Bill No. 834 eliminates provisions relative to LEAP, iLEAP, end-of-course testing, and the graduate exit exam for students in public schools.

Representative Carter announced that the author of the legislation requested that it be voluntarily deferred. Representative Carter moved that action on House Bill No. 834 be voluntarily deferred. There was no objection, and the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Landry, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 525 by Representative Barrow

House Bill No. 525 requires public high school students to perform community service as a prerequisite for graduation.

Representative Barrow asked that House Bill No. 525 be voluntarily deferred at this time.

Representative Carter moved that action on House Bill No. 525 be voluntarily deferred. There was no objection, and the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Landry, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 269 by Representative Barrow

House Bill No. 269 provides relative to education of children in foster care.

Representative Barrow presented the bill to the committee. She was accompanied by Ms. Ruth Johnson, secretary, Department of Children and Family Services, 627 North 4th St., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-5523, who answered questions from committee members, and Ms. Kaaren Hebert, representing the Department of Children and Family Services, 627 North 4th St., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-1102.

The persons listed in the attached also supported the legislation but did not wish to speak. (See Attachment A)

Representative Barrow closed on the legislation.

Representative Carmody moved that House Bill No. 269 be reported favorably. There

was no objection, and House Bill No. 269 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Landry, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Carmody moved that House Bill No. 269 be placed on the Local and Consent calendar. There was no objection, and House Bill No. 269 was placed on the Local and Consent calendar by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Landry, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 100 by Representative Edwards

House Bill No. 100 requires approval by the House and Senate education committees of the value-added teacher assessment model prior to implementation of certain evaluation program requirements.

Representative Edwards presented the bill to the committee. He was accompanied by Ms. Bonnie Thibodeaux, principal, Parks Primary, 3393 Catahoula Hwy, St. Martinville, LA, (337) 394-3244; and Mr. Donald Songy, associate executive director, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 37617 Seven Oaks Ave., Prairieville, LA 70769, (225) 323-3921, who spoke in support of the legislation.

Also speaking in support of House Bill No. 100 were Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1433, (225) 923-1037; Ms. Mary Patricia Wray, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 6820 Menlo Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (937) 475-7853; Ms. Billie Smith, 8081 Hunstock Ave., Denham Springs, LA 70706, (225) 664-2360; Mr. Kevin B. Crovetto, representing Ponchatoula High School, 967 Weinberger Trace Dr., Ponchatoula, LA 70454, (985) 386-4878; Ms. Millie Powell, 37451 Oak Hills Dr., Denham Springs, LA 70706, (225) 667-0050; Dr. Michael A. Walker-Jones, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais Ave., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 533-5907; Ms. Wendy Koch, Vernon Parish, 123 Tyler Rd., Anacoco, LA 71403, (337) 378-4550; Ms. Rachel Magee, representing central Louisiana school psychologists, 5445 Provine Place., Apt. 201, Alexandria, LA 71303, (318) 348-9638; Ms. Hollie Folse, principal, St. James Parish, P. O. Box 8, Vacherie, LA 70090, (225) 869-3639; Ms. Carol Webre, director, Human Resources, St. James Parish Schools, P. O. Box 338, Lutcher, LA 70071, (225) 258-4504; Ms. Angela Reams-Brown, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 13756 Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 954-9973; Ms. Joyce Haynes, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 985-1827; Ms. Cammie Maturin (no address given); Lonnie Luce, superintendent, St. James

Parish Schools, 1876 W. Main St., Lusher, LA 70071, (225) 258-4501; and Ms. Melissa Flournoy, representing Louisiana Progress Action, 650 North 6th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 936-7200.

The persons listed in the attached also supported the legislation but did not wish to speak. (See Attachment B)

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 100 were Mr. John White, state superintendent of education, state Department of Education, 1201 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-0193; Ms. Stafford Palmieri, policy director, Office of Governor Bobby Jindal, 4th Floor, State Capitol, Baton Rouge, LA (225) 342-7015; Ms. Rayne Martin, representing Stand for Children, 643 Magazine St., New Orleans, LA, (504) 247-6225; Ms. Stephanie Desselle, representing the Council for a Better Louisiana (CABL), 251 Florida St., Ste. 400, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 344-2225; and Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI), 3113 Valley Creek Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388.

The persons listed in the attached were also in opposition to the legislation but did not wish to speak. (See Attachment C)

Representative Edwards closed on the bill.

Representative Edwards moved that House Bill No. 100 be reported favorably. Representative Schroder offered a substitute motion that action on House Bill No. 100 be involuntarily deferred. Representative Edwards objected and the secretary called the roll. The substitute motion that action on House Bill No. 100 be involuntarily deferred passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Henry, Hollis, Landry, Schroder, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay, and Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Patricia Haynes, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 581 by Senator Appel

Senate Bill No. 581 provides for the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Act.

Representative Carter presented the bill on behalf of Senator Appel. Ms. Stafford Palmieri, policy director, Office of Governor Bobby Jindal, 4th Floor, State Capitol, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-7015, accompanied him to present highlights of the bill and answer questions from committee members.

The persons listed in the attached were also in support of the legislation or were present to provide information, if requested. (See Attachment D)

Representative Henry moved that Senate Bill No. 581 be reported favorably. There was no objection, and Senate Bill No. 581 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Landry, Price, Shadoin, and Thompson 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 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
House Committee on Education