

## **House Committee on Education**

Minutes of Meeting  
2013 Regular Session  
April 24, 2013

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Stephen F. Carter, Chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. in 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 Wesley T. Bishop  
Representative Chris Broadwater  
Representative Henry L. Burns  
Representative Thomas G. Carmody, Jr.  
Representative John Bel Edwards  
Representative Cameron Henry  
Representative Paul Hollis  
Representative Barry Ivey  
Representative Patrick O. Jefferson, Vice Chairman  
Representative Nancy Landry  
Representative Edward J. Price  
Representative Jerome Richard  
Representative Robert E. Shadoin  
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith  
Representative Jeff R. Thompson  
Representative Alfred C. Williams

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Simone B. Champagne

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Elizabeth L. Borné, Legislative Analyst  
Nancy Y. Jolly, Legislative Analyst  
Jacqueline Snowden, Secretary

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Beverly Vincent, Sergeant at Arms  
Danny Leming, Sergeant at Arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Bill No. 466 by Representative Havard**

Representative Havard presented House Bill No. 466, which provides relative to the assignment of performance-based letter grades to public schools and school districts.

Speaking in support of the legislation were Mr. Michael Faulk, superintendent of schools, Central Community Schools, representing the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, P. O. Box 70894, Baton Rouge, LA 70837, (225) 229-6021; Mr. Hollis Milton, superintendent of schools, West Feliciana Parish Schools, St. Francisville, LA, (225) 537-5759; Ms. Deborah M. Meaux, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 10717 Beverly Dr., Kaplan, LA 70548, (337) 643-1075; and Mr. Scott Richard, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 466 were Mr. Chas Roemer, president of BESE, 6837 Rue Bocage, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-0451, and Mr. John White, state superintendent of education, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the state Department of Education.

The names of others who completed witness cards in support but did not wish to speak are attached.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to call the question on House Bill No. 466, to which Representative Henry Burns objected. The secretary called the roll and the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Henry Burns, Hollis, Nancy Landry, and Thompson voted nay.

Representative Richard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 466 favorably, to which Representative Carter objected. The secretary called the roll and the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Henry Burns, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, and Thompson voted nay.

**House Bill No. 618 by Representative Leopold**

Representative Leopold presented House Bill No. 618, which provides relative to salary supplements for public school educational diagnosticians.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 618 were Ms. Debbie Sisung, representing the Louisiana Educational Diagnosticians Association-Plaquemines Parish, 132 Magnolia Dr., Belle Chasse, LA 70037, (504) 912-2683, and Ms. Mary Ellen Hamner, representing the Louisiana Educational Diagnosticians Association-Plaquemines Parish, 104 Grand Island St., Belle Chasse, LA 70037, (504) 595-6057.

Providing information only was Mr. Scott Richard, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191.

Representative Carter offered a set of amendments on Representative Leopold's behalf that provide as follows:

1. Adds as an additional condition on payment of the supplement that federal funds for this purpose be available.

Representative Carter offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Richard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 618 with amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

**House Bill No. 115 by Representative James**

Representative James presented House Bill No. 115, which provides for parent petitions relative to the transfer of certain schools from the Recovery School District back to the local school system.

Representative Jefferson offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 115 that provided as follows:

1. Adds a condition that to be eligible for return, a school shall be directly operated by the Recovery School District, (RSD) and not identified for conversion to a charter school.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Jefferson offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 115 that provided as follows:

1. Adds that in addition to BESE approval, a transfer requires the approval of the respective local school board.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Jefferson offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 115 that provided as follows:

1. Requires that a school must have had a letter grade of "D" or "F" for five consecutive years while in the RSD instead of "D" or "F" for three consecutive years.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Jefferson offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 115 that provided as follows:

1. Adds requirement that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) rules and regulations include timelines for submitting petitions.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Supporting the bill were Ms. Joyce Haynes, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 343-9243; Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037; Ms. Belinda Davis, representing One Community One School District, 9566 Donna Dr., Baton

Rouge, LA 70815, (225) 202-2698; Dr. Michael Walker Jones, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 343-9243; and Ms. Mary Patricia Wray, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037.

Providing information only was Mr. John White, state superintendent of education, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the state Department of Education

The names of others who completed witness cards in support but did not wish to speak, and persons who were available to present information only, are attached.

Representative Carter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 115 with amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 230 by Representative Pope**

Representative Pope presented House Bill No. 230, which provides relative to the definition of "eligible student" for participation in the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence (voucher) Program.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 230 were Mr. Lonnie Luce, superintendent of schools, St. James Parish Schools, 6002 Jonathan Alaric Blvd., Gonzales, LA 70737, (225) 445-7753, Mr. Trey Folse, superintendent of schools, St. Tammany Parish Schools, 321 N. Theard St., Covington, LA 70433, (985) 966-5728; Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037; and Ms. Joyce Haynes, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 343-9243.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 230 were Ms. Corinne Celestine, 5207 Wentworth Dr., New Orleans, LA 70126, (504) 782-0139; Ms. Belinda Davis, parent of public school children, 4566 Donne Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70815; Mr. Anthony White, parent, 855 S. Flannery Rd., Apt. 909, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 371-3807; Mr. Eric Lewis, representing Black Alliance for Educational Options (BAEO), 7575 Jefferson Hwy., #25, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 708-9323; Ms. Crystal Landry (no address given); Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI), 3113 Valley Creek, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388; Mr. Russell Marino, representing Hosanna Christian Academy, 8850 Goodwood Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 926-4885; Mr. Ronald Briggs, representing Good Shepherd School, 353 Baronne St., New Orleans, LA (504) 239-7163; Mr. Edward Risponse, representing the Louisiana Federation for Children, 18250 S. Mission Hills Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 756-3001; and Mr. John

White, state superintendent of schools, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the state Department of Education, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge.

The names of others who completed witness cards in support and in opposition to the bill but did not wish to speak, and persons who were available to present information only, are attached.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 230 favorably, to which Representative Carter objected. The secretary called the roll and by a vote of 6 yeas and 11 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Price, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay.

Representative Thompson offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 230. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 206 by Representative Reynolds**

Representative Reynolds presented House Bill No. 206, (Constitutional Amendment), which removes geographic limitations on the legislature's authority to create new school boards and on provisions relative to financing education.

Representative Carmody offered a set of amendments to the bill that provided as follows:

- 1 Removes prohibition against the creation of a school district that is not wholly contained in a single parish.

Representative Carmody offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 206 were Ms. Mary Patricia Wray, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037; Ms. Tania Nyman, representing One Community One School District, 1278 Aberdeen Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 383-1943; Ms. Belinda Davis, representing One Community One School District, 9566 Donna Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815, (225) 202-2698; and Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037.

The names of others who completed witness cards in opposition to the bill but did not wish to speak are attached.

Representative Carmody offered a motion to report House Bill No. 206 with amendments, to which Representative Price objected. The secretary called the roll and the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Richard, Shadoin, and Thompson voted yea. Representatives Edwards, Jefferson, Price, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

### **House Bill No. 160 by Representative Reynolds**

Representative Reynolds presented House Bill No. 160, which delays implementation of certain teacher evaluation program requirements relative to termination proceedings and restricts use of evaluation results. He was accompanied by Ms. Robin Tucker, principal, Minden High School, 400 Tucker St., Minden, LA 71055, (318) 377-2766 and Mr. Norris Busby.

Representative Thompson offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 160 that provided as follows:

1. Delays implementation present law requiring for termination proceedings based on evaluation determinations until the 2014-2015 school year.
2. Adds that for the 2012-2013 school year, evaluation results may only be used for the purpose of making reduction in force decisions and in such case, only the results of the observation portion of the evaluation may be used.
3. Deletes proposed law that would have required approval by the House and Senate education committees of the teacher evaluation value-added assessment model prior to its implementation.
4. Deletes proposed law that would have changed the initial reporting date for certain annual reports submitted by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) relative to the assessment model.

Representative Thompson offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Supporting the bill were Ms. Lottie P. Beebe, member, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) from St. Martin Parish, 545 Clause Dr., Breaux Bridge, LA, (337) 412-2564; Mr.

Donald Songy, representing the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, Box 40217, Baton Rouge, LA 70835-0217, (225) 323-3921; Mr. Michael Deshotels, representing himself, 22505 Fariway View Dr., (225) 235-1632; Ms. Bridget Bergeron, 6909 Daspit Rd., New Iberia, LA 70563, (337) 380-1898; Ms. Beth Meyers, representing herself, 909 Sharon St., Denham Springs, LA 70726, (225) 963-1711; Ms. Dawn Gary, representing teachers, 710 Heart D Farm Rd., Youngsville, LA, (37) 230-8760; Mr. Michael Myers, Red River United of Caddo and Bossier parishes, 409 Galwy Dr., Shreveport, LA 71115, (318) 798-3640; Mr. Michael Faulk, representing the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, P. O. Box 78094, Baton Rouge, LA 70837, (225) 229-6011; Mr. Rudolfo, Espinoza, representing himself, 165 N. Arlington, Lafayette, LA 70503; Ms. Belinda Creel Davis, parent of two East Baton Rouge Parish school system children, 9566 Donna Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815, (225) 202-2698; Ms. Vicky Johnston, representing Calcasieu, 1207 Tan Tara Circle, Lake Charles, LA 70611, (337) 855-4431; Mr. Wayne Free, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 281-6608; Ms. Karen Richardson, representing herself and Kaplan Elementary, 15605 Mire Rd., Kaplan, LA 70548, (337) 643-1790; Ms. Deborah Meaux, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 10717 Beverly Dr., Kaplan, LA 70548, (337) 643-1075; Mr. Shane Guilbeau, representing Lafayette Parish, 720 LeBesque Rd., Lafayette, LA 70507 (337) 288-0599; Ms. Lenora Austin, P. O. Box 718, Centerville, LA 70522, (337) 578-0071; Ms. Tania Nyman, representing herself as a parent of public school students, 1278 Aberdeen Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 383-1943; Ms. Joyce Haynes, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais, Baton Rouge, LA, (337) 946-1821; Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037; Dr. Michael Walker Jones, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 343-9243; and Mr. Scott Richard, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 160 were Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI), 3113 Valley Creek Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388; Mr. Rambo Schutz, 720 N. 8th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70282, (318) 344-2744; Mr. Alex Aranha, representing Stand for Children, 2225 College Dr., #6, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 284-4660; Ms. Michelle Williams, 10825 Sullivan Rd., Apt. D1, Baton Rouge, LA 70718, (225) 780-3784; Ms. Mitzi Murray, representing Stand for Children, 373 Victory Lane, West Monroe, LA 71291, (318) 397-7520; Ms. Rayne Martin, representing Stand for Children 4035 Washington, (713) 550-7845; Ms. Brittany Walker Sykes, representing Stand for Children, 15580 George O'Neal Rd., #1236, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (504) 451-1909; Ms. Maya Bennett, representing Stand for Children, 632 University Walk, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 287-0889; Mr. Charles Thomas, representing Stand for Children, Baton Rouge, LA (225) 218-5429; Ms. Monica Candal (letter read into the record); and Mr. James O'Donnell, 610 University Walk, #4, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 395-9593.

The names of others who completed witness cards in support and in opposition to the bill but did not wish to speak are attached.



Representative Thompson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 160 with amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

House Bill Nos. 206, 115, 230, 618, and 466: These bills are scheduled for discussion the morning of April 25, 2013. The committee will then recess and reconvene upon adjournment of the House Floor proceedings.

House Bill Nos. 160, 478, 596, and 644: These bills are scheduled for discussion upon reconvening after adjournment of the House Floor proceedings on April 25, 2013.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman  
House Committee on Education