

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2013 Regular Session
May 21, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stephen F. Carter, Chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:03 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 Simone B. Champagne
Representative John Bel Edwards
Representative Cameron Henry
Representative Patrick O. Jefferson, Vice Chairman
Representative Nancy Landry
Representative Edward J. Price
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jeff R. Thompson
Representative Alfred C. Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Paul Hollis
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Robert E. Shadoin

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**Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 28 by Senator Nevers**

Senator Nevers presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 28, which requests the Department of Education to plan and conduct the Louisiana Teacher Empowerment, Learning and Leading Survey (La TELLS) Initiative.

Supporting Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 28 but not wishing to speak was Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037.

Present to provide information if requested was Dr. Michael A. Walker-Jones, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators (no address given).

Representative Thompson offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 28 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Smith, and Thompson voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48 by Senator Nevers

Senator Nevers presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48, which requests the Board of Regents to consider articulation and transfer efforts of public postsecondary educational institutions when allocating funds through the funding formula for public postsecondary education.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Smith, and Thompson voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 49 by Senator Nevers

Senator Nevers presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 49, which requests the Board of Regents to develop a uniform policy regarding the acceptance of college credit hours earned through Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams.

Representative Broadwater offered a set of amendments to Senate Bill No. 49 that provided as follows:

1. Refers to students earning college credit for qualifying Advanced Placement examination performance instead of for Advanced Placement courses.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Carmody offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 49 with amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 93 by Senator Nevers

Senator Nevers presented Senate Bill No. 93, which provides for the awarding and transfer of college credit for academic content in career and technical and industry-based certification courses.

Supporting Senate Bill No. 93 but not wishing to speak was Mr. Lee Faucette, representing the Louisiana Association of School Executives, 12615 Stoneway Place, Baton Rouge, LA 70818, (225) 261-5560.

Representative Carmody offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 93 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 45 by Senator White

Senator White presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 45, which requests the LCTCS Board of Supervisors to open the new Baton Rouge Community College Workforce Training Center as soon as possible.

Representative Carter offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 45 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 625 by Representative Gaines

Representative Gaines presented House Bill No. 625, which provides relative to the process for discharging, demoting, or disciplining a permanent public school teacher.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 625 were Mr. Brian F. Blackwell, representing various local teacher organizations, 2600 CitiPlace Dr., Suite 525, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 769-2462; Ms. Jill W. Saia, representing public school administrators, (no address given), (225) 413-2872; and Mr. Michael Walker-Jones, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators (no address given).

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 625 were Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, 3113 Valley Creek Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388 and Ms. Erin Bendily, representing the State Board for Elementary and Secondary Education and the state Department of Education, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, LA.

Presenting information only on the bill were Mr. Francis Touchet, representing the state Department of Education (no address given) and Mr. Gary Jones, representing the state Department of Education, (318) 563-4433.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of and in opposition to House Bill No. 625 are attached.

Representative Carter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 625. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 615 by Representative Henry

Representative Henry presented House Bill No. 615, which provides prohibitions for charter schools and charter school proposals relative to staffing positions.

Representative Henry offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 615. Representative Henry 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, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 615 was Mr. Stephen Gelé, representing the American Public Policy Alliance, 1711 General Pershing, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 899-7849.

Representative Henry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 615. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Champagne, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 182 by Senator Cortez

Senator Cortez presented Senate Bill No. 182, which provides relative to cocurricular and extracurricular activities, including interscholastic athletics.

Speaking in support of Senate Bill No. 182 was Mr. Matthew Spradley, representing the Louisiana High School Athletic Association, P. O. Box 70884, Baton Rouge, LA (225) 766-1337.

Representative Champagne offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 182 favorably, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll and the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, and Price voted yea. Representative Smith voted nay.

Senate Bill No. 36 by Senator Heitmeier

Senator Heitmeier presented Senate Bill No. 36, which requires public post secondary education institutions to develop smoke-free policies for its campuses.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of Senate Bill No. 36 and to provide information are attached.

Representative Henry offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 36 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Carmody offered a motion to place Senate Bill No. 36 on the Local & Consent calendar. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, and Smith voted yea.

House Bill No. 539 by Representative Harris

Representative Harris presented House Bill No. 539, which authorizes the Avoyelles Parish School Board to exchange certain sixteenth section lands.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 539 were Mr. Charles Riddle, Avoyelles Parish District Attorney, (318) 253-6587 and Mr. Dwayne Lemoine, representing Avoyelles Parish, 590 Highway 453, (318) 201-9388.

Also supporting the bill but not wishing to speak was Mr. Michael Nassif, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191.

Representative Henry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 539 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, and Smith voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

To receive information from the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and specified others concerning the motion adopted by the board on April 17, 2013, to permit school systems to make requests to the state superintendent of education for exceptions to board rules applicable to school libraries and media programs and provide for committee discussion and questions related thereto.

Representative Carter recognized Representative Barbara Norton who opened discussion on this item and requested that it be placed on the agenda.

Providing information were Mr. Chas Roemer, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 6837 Rue Bocage, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-0451; Ms. Stephanie Braunstein, representing the Louisiana Library Association, 5654 Vicksburg Dr., Baton Rouge, LA

70817, (225) 218-6705; and Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
House Committee on Education