

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2014 Regular Session
April 16, 2014

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 Patrick O. Jefferson, Vice 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 Paul Hollis
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Nancy Landry
Representative Edward J. Price
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Robert E. Shadoin
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jeff R. Thompson
Representative Alfred C. Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Cameron Henry

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Beverly Vincent, Sergeant at Arms
Riley Thomas, Sergeant at Arms
Candace Pointer, Sergeant at Arms
Alyssa Perot-Heltz, Clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 1228 by Representative Foil**

Representative Foil presented House Bill No. 1228, which provides relative to a program for educating students with exceptionalities.

Representative Champagne offered a motion to adopt a three-minute rule for testimony on House Bill No. 1228, to which Representative Thompson objected. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Champagne, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea. Representatives Thompson and Alfred Williams voted nay.

Representative Carmody offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1228 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1228 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Champagne, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 941 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 941, which provides for allocations of certain public school funds to building renovation and replacement purposes in certain school districts.

Representative Price offered a motion to adopt a substitute bill to House Bill No. 941. Without objection, the motion to adopt the substitute to House Bill No. 941 passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Champagne, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report House Bill No. 941 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 941 was reported by substitute by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yeas.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 61 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 61, which urges and requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to develop a statewide funding model for early childhood care and educational services.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 61 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 61 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yeas.

House Bill No. 876 by Representative Seabaugh

Representative Seabaugh presented House Bill No. 876, which provides relative to greetings and displays associated with traditional celebrations in winter in public schools.

Representative Smith offered a set of amendments to include "Happy Kwanza" in the list of acceptable greetings and displays. Representative Smith offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yeas.

Representative Henry Burns offered a motion to report House Bill No. 876 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 876 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yeas.

House Bill No. 89 by Representative Miller

Representative Miller presented House Bill No. 89, which provides relative to the payment of accrued liabilities of retirement systems and other retirement obligations from minimum foundation program funds allocated to charter schools.

Representative Jefferson offered a set of amendments to specify that certain provisions in proposed law pertain to student membership; to clarify charter school employees' participation in the state retirement system; to specify an effective date; and to make technical corrections. Representative Jefferson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 89 with amendments, to which Representative Ivey objected. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 5 yeas and 10 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Edwards, Price, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 89. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 89 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 184 by Representative Havard

Representative Havard presented House Bill No. 184, which provides relative to assets or property acquired or used by charter schools under certain circumstances.

Representative Richard offered a set of amendments that would prohibit charter schools from paying aggregate lease payments in excess of 150% of the value of the property at the inception of the lease. Representative Richard offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Nancy Landry objected. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 4 yeas and 12 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Edwards, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay.

Representative Richard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 184 favorably, to which Representative Champagne objected. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 5 yeas and 11 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Edwards, Price, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 184. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 184 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Champagne, Edwards,

Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 703 by Representative Edwards

Representative Edwards presented House Bill No. 703, which prohibits the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education from authorizing charter schools under certain circumstances.

Representative Edwards offered a motion to report House Bill No. 703 favorably, to which Representative Carter objected. A roll call vote was taken and House Bill No. 703 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 7 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, and Nancy Landry voted nay.

House Bill No. 701 by Representative Edwards

Representative Edwards presented House Bill No. 701, which provides relative to student eligibility for vouchers.

Representative Edwards offered a motion to report House Bill No. 701 favorably, to which Representative Carter objected. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 6 yeas and 10 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Edwards, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay.

Representative Carter offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 701. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 701 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 1199 by Representative Schroder

Representative Schroder presented House Bill No. 1199, which provides relative to parents' access to information about schools and instructional materials used by schools.

Representative Carter offered a set of technical amendments to the bill. Representative Carter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry

Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, and Thompson voted yea.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1199 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 1199 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, and Thompson voted yea.

House Bill No. 836 by Representative Harrison

Representative Harrison presented House Bill No. 836, which requires the state Dept. of Education to develop an accountability system for nonpublic schools participating in the voucher program and requires compliance with the system by such schools.

Representative Price offered a motion to report House Bill No. 836 favorably, to which Representative Champagne objected. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 5 yeas and 12 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Price, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 836. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 836 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 1177 by Representative Carter

Representative Carter presented House Bill No. 1177, which provides relative to the governance of schools in large school systems.

Accompanying Representative Carter and speaking in support of House Bill No. 1177 were Representative Dalton Honoré and Senator Bodi White.

Also speaking in support of the legislation were Mr. Adam Knapp, representing the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, 2332 Wisteria St., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 381-7128; and Mr. Richard Lipsey, representing the Committee for Progress, P. O. Box 83280, Baton Rouge, LA 70884, (225) 755-1352.

The names of persons who were in support of House Bill No. 1228 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit A.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 1177 were Ms. Josephine Batiste, representing elementary principals of East Baton Rouge Parish, 1865 Walnut St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 293-9950; Ms. Shalika M. Scott, representing the East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 9147 Elm Grove Garden Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70807, (225) 775-0716; Ms. Norma Church, representing elementary principals of East Baton Rouge Parish, 18334 Cedar Line Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 752-8122; Mr. Lawrence Harrig, representing elementary principals of East Baton Rouge Parish (Broadmoor Elementary), 9650 Goodwood Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA (225) 925-0343; Ms. Kimberly Ringgold-Boudreaux, representing elementary principals of East Baton Rouge Parish (Beechwood Superintendent's Academy), 2555 DeSoto Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 775-4285; Ms. Christa Leon, representing elementary principals of East Baton Rouge Parish, 11264 Abbey Lane, Denham Springs, LA, (225) 761-7849; Ms. Donna Walette, representing elementary principals of East Baton Rouge Parish, 44303 Forbes Dr., Hammond, LA 70403, (225) 372-5071; Mr. Brandon Levatino, representing elementary principals of East Baton Rouge Parish, 18638 Magnolia Bend Rd., Greenwell Springs, LA 70739, (225) 654-5808; Ms. Karen Triche, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 9002 Whitehall, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 927-6100; Ms. Phyllis Crawford, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system (Sherwood Middle), 1020 Marbrook Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815, (225) 272-3090; Mr. Daniel B. Edwards, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 17055 Jefferson Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 753-1200, Ms. Sharmayne R. Rutledge, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system (Greenbrier Elementary), 12203 Canterbury Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70820, (225) 275-4260; Ms. Katie Blunski, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 18492 Perkins Rd. (home), 1050 S. Foster Dr. (work), (225) 922-5616; Mr. Adam Smith, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 9836 Mesa Verde, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 922-5616; Mr. Michael Haggen, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 1050 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 922-5400; Mr. Domoine Rutledge, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 1050 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA; Dr. Bernard Taylor, superintendent of schools, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 1340 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 922-5618; Representative Patricia Smith; Representative Alfred C. Williams, 701 South Acadian Thruway, (225) 388-9122; Ms. Connie Bernard, board member, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system, District 8, 930 High Lake Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 229-1901; Mr. Tarvald Anthony Smith, board vice president, representing East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 1050 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 922-5400; Mr. Scott Richard, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 278-5398; Ms. Leslie Defley, a parent, 475 Magnolia Wood Ave., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 766-4246; Mr. Carnell Washington, president, East Baton Rouge Parish Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 11823 Marketplace, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 292-2680; Ms. Patty N. Merrick, representing the Retired Teachers Association and Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 2634 Yorktown Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 924-1987; Dr. Michael Walker-Jones, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 343-9243; Mr. Glen Guzik, 1222 Wylie Ave., (225) 955-3388; Ms.

Belinda Davis, representing One Community One School District, 9566 Donnie St., Baton Rouge, LA 70815, (225) 202-2658; Mr. Dannie P. Garrett, 263 Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333; Ms. Tania Nyman, representing One Community One School District, 1278 Aberdeen Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 383-1943; Mr. Matthew Diez, 1942 Terrace Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 803-9991; Ms. Tia T. Mills, representing the East Baton Rouge Parish Association of Educators, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 625-4716; Ms. Kerii Thomas, representing her children, 5181 Bennington Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808; Ms. Raynie Harlan, representing her children, 5026 Woodside Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (504) 388-8880; and Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 923-1037.

Providing information on House Bill No. 1177 was Ms. Christine Campbell, Center on Reinventing Public Education, University of Washington, 425 Bonhus Ave., #410 Seattle, WA 93109, (226) 617-6843.

Representative Carter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1177, to which Representative Wesley Bishop objected. A roll call vote was taken and action on House Bill No. 1177 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Price, Reynolds, Shadoin, Smith, and Thompson voted yea. Representatives Wesley Bishop and Alfred Williams voted nay.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Any legislative instrument listed on the Agenda which is not disposed of before the House convenes may be carried over and heard upon adjournment. House Bill No. 1177 was heard upon adjournment.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
House Committee on Education