

## **House Committee on Education**

Minutes of Meeting  
2014 Regular Session  
April 30, 2014

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

Representative Stephen F. Carter, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.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 John Bel Edwards  
Representative Cameron Henry  
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 Simone B. Champagne

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Elizabeth L. Borné, Committee Legislative Analyst  
Nancy Y. Jolly, Committee Legislative Analyst  
Jacqueline Snowden, Committee Secretary  
Alyssa Perot-Heltz, Committee Clerk

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Beverly Vincent, Sergeant at Arms  
Joyce Trotter, Sergeant at Arms  
Riley Thomas, Sergeant at Arms  
Darrell Augustine, Sergeant at Arms  
Danny Leming, Sergeant at Arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Bill No. 995 by Representative Alfred Williams**

Representative Alfred Williams presented House Bill No. 995, which provides relative to teacher evaluations.

Representative Alfred Williams offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 995 that would provide as follows:

1. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) would require the BESE-established Accountability Commission to convene an advisory subcommittee of the commission to report on and make recommendations relative to teacher and administrator evaluation.
2. Authorizes instead of requires BESE to develop and implement the Teacher Effectiveness and Measurement (TEAM) system to be used by school boards to measure teacher and administrator effectiveness.
3. Deletes the following proposed law:
  - (a) Requirement that the school and district accountability system be based on multiple indicators of student growth and achievement from multiple data sources as provided in the TEAM system instead of a value-added assessment model.

- (b) Requirement that a second evaluation be performed within the next school year following a teacher's "ineffective" rating and the provision that if the teacher receives a second "ineffective" rating, the local board is authorized rather than required to initiate termination proceedings.
- (c) Prohibition against the evaluation of teachers and administrators based primarily upon the results of a single test.

Representative Alfred Williams 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, Henry Burns, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 995 were Ms. Debbie Meaux, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 343-9243; and Dr. Michael Walker Jones, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 343-9243.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 995 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit A.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in opposition to House Bill No. 995 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit B.

Representative Alfred Williams offered a motion to report House Bill No. 995 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 995 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Henry Burns, Edwards, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 982 by Representative Gaines**

Representative Gaines presented House Bill No. 982, which provides relative to the process for discharging, demoting, or disciplining a permanent public school teacher.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a substitute bill to House Bill No. 982.

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

Dr. Michael Walker-Jones, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 343-9243, explained the bill.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 982 were Ms. Debbie Meaux, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 343-9243; Mr. Brian Blackwell, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 2600 Citiplace Dr., Ste. 525, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 769-2462; and Dr. Sandra Cannon Scott, representing the Madison Parish Association of Educators, 1110 W. Craig St., Tallaluh, LA 71382, (318) 341-8900.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 982 was Ms. Stafford Palmieri, representing the Governor's Office, Fourth Floor, State Capitol, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-7015.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 982 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit A.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in opposition to House Bill No. 982 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit B.

Representative Carter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 982. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 982 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Henry Burns, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 1115 by Representative Thompson**

Representative Thompson presented House Bill No. 1115, which provides relative to high school graduation requirements and Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) core curriculum requirements.

Available to present information if requested were Ms. Sujuan Boutté, executive director, Office of Student Financial Assistance, 602 North 5<sup>th</sup> St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-7295; and George Eldredge, general counsel, Office of Student Financial Assistance, 602 North 5<sup>th</sup> St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-7295.

Representative Thompson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1115 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1115 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, and Thompson voted yea.

**House Bill No. 733 by Representative Jackson**

Representative Jackson presented House Bill No. 733, which requires instruction on child assault awareness and prevention in public schools.

Representative Carmody offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 733 that would provide that proposed law shall be known and may be cited as "Erin's Law".

Representative Carmody 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, Richard, and Shadoin voted yea.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 733 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit A.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report House Bill No. 733 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 733 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, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea.

**House Bill No. 1232 by Representative Nancy Landry**

Representative Nancy Landry presented House Bill No. 1232, which provides relative to the powers of local school boards and local superintendents with respect to the hiring, salaries, and dismissal of school employees.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 1232 that adds language, "subject to board approval" relative to local school boards.

Representative Nancy Landry 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, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Smith offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 1232 that provides for dismissal authority by the local superintendent.

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

Representative Nancy Landry offered a set of amendments relative to the authority of local public school boards in the hiring and dismissal of local school superintendents.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 1232 was Dr. Pat Cooper, superintendent of Lafayette Parish schools, 1042 Camellia, Lafayette, LA, (601) 248-2830; Ms. Stephanie Desselle, representing the Council for a Better Louisiana (CABL), P. O. 4308, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 244-2225; Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI), 3113 Valley Creek Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388; and Mr. Chas Roemer, president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), 6832 Rue Bocage, Baton Rouge, LA 70805.

Providing information on the bill was Mr. Gary Jones, representing the state Department of Education, (318) 308-2306.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 1232 were Mr. Brian Blackwell, representing himself, 2600 Citiplace Dr., Ste. 525, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 769-2462; Mr. Dannie P. Garrett, III, 263 Third St., Ste. 707, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333; Mr. Scott Richard, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191; Mr. Jim Melohn, representing the St. Charles Parish School Board, 13855 River Rd., Luling, LA 70070, (504) 416-6198; and Ms. Ann Burruss, representing Power of Public Education-Lafayette, 110 Seville Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70503, (337) 852-3669.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 1232 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit A.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in opposition to House Bill No. 1232 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit B.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1232 with amendments, to which Representative Price objected. A roll call vote was taken and House Bill No. 1232 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 8 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Shadoin, and Thompson voted yea. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

**House Bill No. 1231 by Representative Nancy Landry**

Representative Nancy Landry presented House Bill No. 1231, which provides relative to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) enforcing compliance of certain laws applicable to local school boards.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 1231 to place the bill in the posture in which she wanted it discussed. Representative Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Shadoin offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 1231 that would provide as follows:

On page 2, line 4, change "the" court to "a" court of competent jurisdiction

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

Representative Nancy Landry offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 1231 that would provide as follows:

On page 2, line 21, after "the state board and institute", change "shall" to "may"

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

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 1232 was Dr. Pat Cooper, superintendent of Lafayette Parish schools, 1042 Camellia, Lafayette, LA, (601) 248-2830. Also speaking in support of the bill were Ms. Stephanie Desselle, representing the Council for a Better Louisiana (CABL), P. O. 4308, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 244-2225; Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI), 3113 Valley Creek Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388; and Mr. Chas Roemer, president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), 6832 Rue Bocage, Baton Rouge, LA 70805.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 1232 were Mr. Dannie P. Garrett, III, 263 Third St., Ste. 707, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333; Mr. Scott Richard, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191; and Ms. Ann Burruss, representing Power of Public Education, Lafayette, 110 Seville Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70503, (337) 852-3669.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 1231 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit A.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in opposition to House Bill No. 1231 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit B.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1231. Representative Edwards offered a substitute motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1231. Representative Landry objected, and the secretary called the roll on the substitute motion. The motion to involuntarily defer House Bill No. 1231 failed by a vote of 4 yeas and 13 nays. Representatives Edwards, Price, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay.

The vote was then taken on Representative Landry's original motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1231. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1231 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

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

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman  
House Committee on Education