

## **House Committee on Retirement**

Minutes of Meeting  
2014 Regular Session  
March 13, 2014

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

Representative J. Kevin Pearson, chairman of the House Committee on Retirement, called the meeting to order at 9:53 a.m. in Room 4, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative J. Kevin Pearson, Chairman  
Representative Nick Lorusso, Vice Chair  
Representative Frank A. Hoffmann  
Representative Paul Hollis  
Representative Barry Ivey  
Representative Sam Jones  
Representative Jack Montoucet  
Representative Edward J. Price  
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds  
Representative Kirk Talbot

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

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

Stephanie Little, Committee Attorney  
Shawn O'Brien, Committee Secretary  
Cheryl Forrest, Sergeant at Arms  
Catherine Collins, Sergeant at Arms  
Danielle Broussard, Committee Clerk

#### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Paul Richmond, Actuarial Services Manager,  
Office of the Legislative Auditor

### III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

#### **House Bill No. 29 by Representative Cox**

Representative Cox presented House Bill No. 29, which provides relative to rehired retirees of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.

Mr. Richmond provided information on the actuarial impact of the bill.

Ms. Maureen Westgard, Director, Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, 8401 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA, 225-925-6454, provided information on the legislation.

Mr. Jim Malohn, St. Charles Parish School Board, 13855 River Rd., Luling, LA, 985-785-6289, and Ms. Mary Patricia Wray, Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in favor of the bill.

Mr. Dannie Garrett, St. Charles Parish School Board, 263 Third St., Suite 707, Baton Rouge, LA, 225-382-0333, submitted a witness card in support of the bill.

Representative Price offered a motion to report House Bill No. 29 favorably, to which Representative Ivey objected. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 3 yeas and 6 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Jones, Montoucet, and Price voted yea. Representatives Lorusso, Hoffmann, Hollis, Ivey, Reynolds, and Talbot voted nay.

There was no final action taken on the bill.

#### **House Bill No. 82 by Representative Jones**

Representative Jones presented House Bill No. 82, which authorizes a retired member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana who does not have a valid teaching certificate to return to work as a substitute instructor and continue to receive retirement benefits.

Representative Jones offered a set of amendments to require instead that such substitute instructors be required to have a valid teaching certificate.

Representative Jones offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Lorusso, Hoffmann, Hollis, Ivey, Jones, Montoucet, Price, Reynolds, and Talbot voted yea.

Mr. Dannie Garrett, St. Charles Parish School Board, 263 Third St., Suite 707, Baton Rouge, LA, 225-382-0333; Mr. Shane Riddle, LAE, 8322 One Calais Ave., Baton Rouge, LA, 225-343-9243; and Mr. Michael Myers, Red River United, 1726 Line Ave., Shreveport, LA, 318-424-4579, submitted witness cards expressing support for the bill.

Ms. Maureen Westgard, Director, Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, 8401 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA, 225-925-6454, informed the committee that not all districts treat the process uniformly.

Ms. Mary Patricia Wray, Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in favor of the bill.

After further discussion, Representative Jones agreed to make changes to the proposed amendment and bring the bill up for further discussion at a subsequent meeting.

There was no further action taken on the bill.

### **House Bill No. 6 by Representative Pearson**

Representative Pearson presented House Bill No. 6, which establishes a minimum employer contribution rate for the Optional Retirement Plan in the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.

Mr. Jason Droddy, Louisiana State University (no address provided) 578-4713, informed the committee that the university is experiencing hiring constraints under the present system.

Saying that he wanted to discuss the measure further with interested parties, Representative Pearson offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 6. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 6 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, Lorusso, Hoffmann, Hollis, Ivey, Jones, Montoucet, Price, Reynolds, and Talbot voted yea.

### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

Each of the state and statewide retirement systems updated the committee on their systems' actuarial valuations, system investments, and other relevant information.

### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Representative Pearson introduced and explained the role of the actuary, Mr. Paul Richmond.

Representative Price introduced a group of members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority who were at the State Capitol for Red and White Day.

### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Kevin Pearson, Chairman  
House Committee on Retirement

/so

Date Approved: April 22, 2015

The committee has acknowledged on April 22, 2015, that these minutes were prepared in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives.