

House Committee on Retirement

Minutes of Meeting
2015 Regular Session
May 14, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative J. Kevin Pearson, chairman of the House Committee on Retirement, called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.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 Gregory A. Miller
Representative Jack Montoucet
Representative Darrell P. Ourso
Representative Edward J. Price
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds
Representative Kirk Talbot

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Stephanie Little, Attorney
Katie LeLeux, Attorney
Linda Hopkins, Secretary
Shawn O'Brien, Secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Linda Robillard, Sergeant at Arms
Paul T. Richmond, Actuarial Systems
Manager

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 42 by Representative Jones**

Representative Jones presented House Bill No. 42, which authorizes payments funded by state retirement system experience accounts to certain retirees and beneficiaries of such systems.

Representative Miller offered a motion to report House Bill No. 42 unfavorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 42 was reported unfavorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, Lorusso, Hoffmann, Ivey, Jones, Miller, Ourso, Price, Reynolds, and Talbot voted yea.

Twenty-two persons completed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 42 but declined to speak.

One person completed witness card in opposition to House Bill No. 42 but declined to speak.

One person completed witness card, for information only, for House Bill No. 42 but declined to speak.

Senate Bill No. 20 by Senator Long

Senator Long presented Senate Bill No. 20, which allows certain retirees to collect benefits during reemployment.

Ms. Patricia McElroy, representing the Louisiana Educational Diagnosticians Association, 12069 GlenHaven Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 247-3853, spoke in favor of Senate Bill No. 20.

Mr. Lee Dunbar, former teacher, principal, supervisor and school board member of Rapides Parish, and representing teachers, 1604 Highway 1204, Pineville, LA, (318) 640-0846, spoke in favor of Senate Bill No. 20.

Fourteen persons completed witness cards in support of Senate Bill No. 20 but declined to speak.

One person completed witness card in opposition to Senate Bill No. 20 but declined to speak.

Representative Price offered amendments that add educational diagnosticians to the list of retirees who may return to work in a critical shortage position and receive benefits during reemployment. Representative Price offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, Hoffmann, Ivey, Jones, Miller, Ourso, Price, Reynolds, and Talbot voted yea.

Representative Montoucet offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 20 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 20 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, Lorusso, Hoffmann, Hollis, Ivey, Jones, Miller, Montoucet, Ourso, Price, Reynolds, and Talbot voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 2 by Senator Claitor

Senator Claitor presented Senate Bill No. 2, which repeals provisions for payment to certain DROP participants of a retirement benefit calculated as if the persons had not participated in DROP.

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 2 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 2 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, Lorusso, Hoffmann, Hollis, Ivey, Jones, Miller, Montoucet, Ourso, Price, Reynolds, and Talbot voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 16 by Senator Guillory

Senator Guillory presented Senate Bill No. 16, which provides for application of excess investment earnings of the state retirement systems.

Ms. Maureen Westgard, director, representing Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA, 70804, (225) 925-6454, spoke in favor of Senate Bill No. 16.

Five persons completed witness cards in support of Senate Bill No. 16 but declined to speak.

Four persons completed witness cards, for information only, for Senate Bill No. 16 but declined to speak.

Representative Jones offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 16 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 16 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, Lorusso, Hoffmann, Hollis, Ivey, Jones, Miller, Montoucet, Ourso, Price, and Talbot voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 17 by Senator Guillory

Senator Guillory presented Senate Bill No. 17, which provides relative to benefits and funding.

Mr. Skip McGee, executive director, representing the Louisiana Sheriffs' Pension Fund, 1225 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, 70802, (225) 219-0500, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 17.

Representative Ourso offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 17 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 17 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Miller, Montoucet, Ourso, Price, and Talbot voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no other announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Ourso offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Miller, Montoucet, Ourso, Price, and Talbot voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Kevin Pearson, chairman
House Committee on Retirement

The committee has acknowledged on March 17, 2016, that these minutes were prepared in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives.