

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Regular Session
April 19, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.
Representative Chris Broadwater
Representative Stephen F. Carter
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Reid Falconer
Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Edward J. Price, vice chairman
Representative Scott M. Simon
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Polly Thomas

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elizabeth L. Borne, legislative analyst
Nancy Y. Jolly, legislative analyst
Jacqueline Snowden, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Beverly Vincent, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Concurrent Resolution No. 14 by Representative Moreno**

Representative Moreno presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 14, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to allow instruction in computer science to count for purposes of satisfying certain high school graduation requirements.

Aaron Schwindt, Operation Spark, 748 Camp St., New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 456-7002, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 14.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 14 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 14 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 20 by Representative Price

Representative Price presented House Bill No. 20, which provides relative to exemptions from the requirements for school instructional time under certain circumstances.

David Alexander, Ascension Parish schools, 1100 Webster, Donaldsonville, LA 70346, (337) 391-7000, spoke in support of House Bill No. 20.

Steve Parrill, Livingston Parish public schools, 1301 S. Elon, Hammond, LA, (225) 686-4220, spoke in support of House Bill No. 20.

Erin Bendily, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 20.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 20 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 20 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy

Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 10 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 412 by Representative LeBas

Representative LeBas presented House Bill No. 412, which authorizes the possession and application of sunscreen at public schools.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt the two-minute rule for discussion on House Bill No. 412. Without objection, the two-minute rule was adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Amedee offered an amendment to House Bill No. 412 to remove provisions that the sunscreen used must be regulated by the Food and Drug Administration. Representative Amedee offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas, 7 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Amedee, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, and Simon voted yea. Representatives Bouie, Steve Carter, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Smith, and Thomas voted nay. Representative Nancy Landry abstained.

Sarah Gray, Lauren Savoy Olinde Foundation, 5414 Ridge Way Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 931-8566, spoke in support of House Bill No. 412 and submitted a newspaper article from *The Seattle Times* and flyers from the foundation, Exhibit E.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 412 favorably, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 412 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Simon, and Thomas voted yea. Representative Smith voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 171 by Representative Steve Carter

Representative Steve Carter presented House Bill No. 171, which provides for technical corrections in Title 17 of the La. Revised Statutes.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 171 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 171 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS**To hear presentations from persons representing early childhood education and a presentation from persons representing the Louisiana Library Association****Early Childhood Education**

Jenna Conway, assistant superintendent for early childhood, Louisiana Department of Education, Claiborne Building, 1201 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke for information only and highlighted information contained in a handout, Exhibit A, entitled "Early Childhood Improving School Readiness", which was an update on implementation of early childhood care and education laws from 2012 to April, 2017.

Melanie Bronfin, J.D., executive director, Louisiana Policy Institute for Children, New Orleans, LA, (504) 417-3735, spoke for information only and highlighted information contained in a handout, Exhibit B, entitled "A Stronger Louisiana Starts with Successful Children", which stressed the importance of early childhood education and development.

Karen W. Burstein, Ph.D., Cecil J. Picard Center for Child Development and Lifelong Learning, 200 E. Devalcourt St., Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 482-1567, spoke for information only and highlighted information contained in a handout, Exhibit C, entitled "Dolly Parton Imagination Library 2014-15 Study", dated November 2016, which chronicles the provision of books to children in Acadiana to enhance their reading skills.

Steven Dick, Ph.D., Cecil J. Picard Center for Child Development and Lifelong Learning, 200 E. Devalcourt St., Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 482-1567, spoke for information only.

Louisiana Library Association

Teri Gallaway, no address given, presented information on LOUIS: The Louisiana Library Network and the issue of textbook affordability in Louisiana contained in a handout, Exhibit D, entitled "Louisiana: Textbook Affordability".

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Nancy Landry
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: