

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2017 Regular Session
May 17, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:09 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. "Ed" 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

Vice Chairman Price in the chair.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 by Representative Nancy Landry

Representative Nancy Landry presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 7, which provides for legislative approval of the minimum foundation program (MFP) formula for FY 2017-2018.

At the May 10, 2017, meeting of the House Committee on Education, Representative Nancy Landry made a motion to return House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 to the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to address certain issues identified by House education committee members with the resolution. The motion passed. The version of the minimum foundation program (MFP) formula under discussion today was modified by BESE during a special called meeting in response to House education committee members' concerns.

Representative Nancy Landry offered amendments to House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 to replace the 2017-2018 MFP formula adopted by the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) on March 8, 2017, with the formula adopted by the board on May 11, 2017, which includes provisions for emergency assistance for certain public school systems and schools impacted by natural disasters or military deployment. Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Steve Carter, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

John White, state superintendent of education, Claiborne Bldg., 1201 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 7.

Beth Scioneaux, state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the State Department of Education, 5th Floor, Claiborne Bldg., 1201 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-3517, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 7.

Cynthia Posey, Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 603-1969, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 7.

Brian F. Blackwell, Louisiana Association of Educators, P. O. Box 84464, Baton Rouge, LA 70884, (225) 769-2462, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 7.

Sarah Vandergriff, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, 1555 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 430-6747, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 7.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Price offered a motion to adopt a five-minute rule for discussion of items on the agenda. Without objection, a five-minute rule was adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 20 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 568 by Representative Nancy Landry

Representative Nancy Landry presented House Bill No. 568, which provides relative to the collection and sharing of certain student information.

Lauren Bierbaum, Ph.D., CREDO at Stanford University, 434 Galvez Hall, Stanford, CA 94305, (650) 725-6169, spoke in support of House Bill No. 568.

Scott M. Richard, Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 278-5398, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 568.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 568 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 568 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: 2 in support and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Nancy Landry in the chair.

House Bill No. 122 by Representative Pierre

Representative Pierre presented House Bill No. 122, which prohibits questions regarding criminal history on an initial application for admission to a public postsecondary education institution.

At the May 10, 2017, meeting of the House Committee on Education, Representative Jeff Hall made a motion to adopt a substitute bill to House Bill No. 122. The motion passed, but the substitute bill was later voluntarily deferred on a motion made by Representative Price and passed by House education committee members. The version of House Bill No. 122 considered at the onset of today's discussion is the adopted substitute bill.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to withdraw the substitute bill to House Bill No. 122 previously adopted at the May 10, 2017, meeting of the House Committee on Education. Without objection, the motion to withdraw the previously adopted substitute bill passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amede, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to adopt the substitute to House Bill No. 122. Without objection, the motion to adopt the substitute passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Syrita Steib-Martin, Operation Restoration and Tulane University, spoke in support of House Bill No. 122.

Annie Freitas, Tulane University, (no address given), spoke in support of House Bill No. 122.

Representative Edward Price in the chair.

Senator Wesley Bishop, Senate District 4, no address given, spoke in support of House Bill No. 122.

Karla Garner, Returning Citizens, 611 Cleveland St., Lafayette, LA 70501, (537) 303-4853, spoke in support of House Bill No. 122.

Dolfinette Martin, VOTE, no address given, (504) 535-3022, spoke in support of House Bill No. 122.

Bruce Reilly, VOTE, 2022 St. Bernard Ave., New Orleans, LA 70116, (504) 758-9420, spoke in support of House Bill No. 122.

Sarah Vandergriff, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, 1555 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA 70122, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 122.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 122 by substitute, to which Representative Thomas objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 122 was reported by substitute by a vote of 13 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention. Representatives Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea. Representative Thomas voted nay. Representative Nancy Landry abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 18 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

(Chairman Nancy Landry in the chair.)

Senate Bill No. 102 by Senator Johns

Dr. Monty Sullivan, president, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, 265 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 922-1643, presented Senate Bill No. 102 on behalf of Senator Johns, which creates and provides for Louisiana Educational Workforce Training Fund to provide opportunities for educational training in the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

Representative Price offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 102 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 102 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 243 by Representative Hall

Representative Hall presented House Bill No. 243, which changes "school bus driver" to "school bus operator" in Title 17.

Mary-Patricia Wray, Louisiana School Bus Operators Association, 328 East Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in support of House Bill No. 243.

Representative Bouie offered a motion to report House Bill No. 243 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 243 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy

Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

The committee recessed at 11:20 a.m. The committee reconvened at 11:31 a.m.

House Bill No. 34 by Representative Pugh

Representative Pugh presented House Bill No. 34, a constitutional amendment, relative to management of public postsecondary education, that abolishes the Board of Regents and the management boards and transfers their powers, duties, and responsibilities to a newly created Louisiana Postsecondary Education Board of Trustees.

Representative Simon offered a motion to report House Bill No. 34 favorably, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 3 yeas, 6 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Amedee, Falconer, and Simon voted yea. Representatives Bouie, Edmonds, Hall, Price, Smith, and Thomas voted nay. Representative Nancy Landry abstained.

Representative Price offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 34. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 34 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Edmonds, Falconer, Hall, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 5 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Resolution No. 94 by Representative Broadwater

On behalf of Representative Broadwater, Representative Nancy Landry presented House Resolution No. 94, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a process for approval of online courses offered to students.

Representative Broadwater offered amendments to House Resolution No. 94 to add online courses for core academic credit recovery offerings and online courses that can be applied to the Jump Start Career Diploma and the Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) University Diploma to those for which the board is requested to create an approval process. Representative Broadwater

offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Edmonds, Falconer, Hall, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 94 with amendments. Without objection, House Resolution No. 94 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Edmonds, Falconer, Hall, Price, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Nancy Landry announced that House Bill No. 194 by Representative Reynolds, which raises the minimum GPA required for initial eligibility for a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) Opportunity Award and provides for exceptions granted with respect to enrollment requirements for initial and continuing eligibility, had been voluntarily deferred.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Nancy Landry
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: