

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2018 Regular Session
March 22, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Camille Arceneaux, clerk
Beverly Vincent, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 676 by Representative Hilferty**

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 676, which creates the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission and pilot programs for community early childhood care and education networks.

Donald Songy, education policy advisor, governor's office, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 588-8164, spoke in support of House Bill No. 676.

Representative Hilferty offered technical amendments to the original bill. Representative Hilferty offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Representative Hilferty offered amendments to the original bill by expanding the scope of the study from publicly funded early care and education programs to all such programs. Representative Hilferty offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Representative Thomas offered amendments to previously adopted amendments to increase the commission membership from 34 to 36. Representative Thomas offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Tony Ligi, Jefferson Business Council, 4425 Clearview Parkway, Metairie, LA, (504) 289-3023, spoke in support of House Bill No. 676.

Susan East Nelson, Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families, 13609 Landmark Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 229-2498, spoke in support of House Bill No. 676.

Julie Lee, Pointe Coupee Early Childhood Coalition, 300 C. Gail Street, New Roads, LA 70760, (225) 718-4275, spoke in support of House Bill No. 676.

Jedidiah Jackson, director, Community Action programs, Jefferson Parish, 1221 Elmwood Park Blvd., Ste. 402, Jefferson LA, (504) 736-6906, spoke in support of House Bill No. 676.

Melanie Bronfin, Louisiana Policy Institute for Children, 426 Atherton Drive, Metairie, LA 70005, (504) 228-0988, spoke in support of House Bill No. 676.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 676 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 676 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 27 in support and 3 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 513 by Representative Steve Carter

Representative Steve Carter and coauthor, Representative Gary Carter, presented House Bill No. 513, which requires a portion of the monies in the Unclaimed Property Leverage Fund to be dedicated to the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund.

Representative Steve Carter offered technical amendments to the original bill that adds a requirement that the state board submit a report to the House and Senate education committees on the status and effectiveness of the fund and technical amendments. Representative Steve Carter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Cindy Bishop, Child Care Association of Louisiana, P. O. Box 80053, Baton Rouge, LA 70898, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Amy Metoyer, City of Natchitoches, 420 4th Street, Natchitoches, LA 71457, (318) 238-7505, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Candice Smith, 572 Highway 453, Marksville, LA, (318) 201-9939, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Theresa Carmouche, Early Childhood Development Center, 306 Baudin Street, Marksville, LA 71351, (318) 500-8984, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Tony Ligi, Jefferson Business Council, 4425 Clearview Parkway, Metairie, LA, (504) 289-3023, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Dr. Keith Leger, Council for a Better Louisiana, 251 Florida Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (337) 540-9441, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt a three-minute rule for testimony on House Bill No. 513. Without objection, a three-minute rule for testimony on House Bill No. 513 was adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Simon, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Melanie Bronfin, Louisiana Policy Institute for Children, 426 Atherton Drive, Metairie, LA 70005, (504) 228-0988, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Julie Lee, Pointe Coupee Early Childhood Coalition, 300 C. Gail Street, New Roads, LA 70760, (225) 718-4275, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Anita Kennedy, Kennedy's Childcare Academy, 2948 Memorial Park Drive, New Orleans, LA 70114, (504) 309-8671, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Jedidiah Jackson, director, Community Action programs, Jefferson Parish, 1221 Elmwood Park Boulevard, Suite 402, Jefferson LA, (504) 736-6906, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Monique Rouege, Carlie Care Kids, 2032 Carol Sue Avenue, Terrytown, LA 70056, (504) 591-3446, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Michael Weatherford, Weatherford Academy, 613 4th Street, Westwego, LA, (504) 267-3080, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Drive Claude Tellis, 5317 Lost Oak Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 282-5644, spoke in support of House Bill No. 513.

Ron Henson, first assistant state treasurer, representing the office of the treasurer, John Treasurer Schroder, (225) 342-0010, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 513.

Representative Steve Carter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 513 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 513 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Simon, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 16 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 272 by Representative Hall

Representative Hall presented House Bill No. 272, which provides with respect to group purchasing of materials, equipment, and supplies.

Representative Hall offered amendments to the original bill to change the lead author from Representative Havard to Representative Hall. Representative Hall 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, Bouie, Brass, Edmonds, Emerson, Hall, Hilferty, Simon, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Scott Richard, Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 278-5398, spoke in support of House Bill No. 272.

Jonathan Walker, Division of Administration 1201 North 3rd Street, 2-160, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-1038, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 272.

Dannie P. Garrett, III, Louisiana School Boards Association, 635 Main Street, Unit #3, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333, spoke in support of House Bill No. 272.

Representative Hall offered a motion to report House Bill No. 272 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 272 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Simon, Smith, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

To receive information and hear presentations from the state Department of Education and others relative to the status of early childhood education in Louisiana.

Representative Hilferty narrated a PowerPoint presentation on early childhood education and a child's brain development and language.

Jenna Conway, assistant superintendent, Early Childhood, Louisiana Department of Education and state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1201 North 3rd Street, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-3736, spoke for information only (no witness card submitted)..

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Nancy Landry
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: