

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2019 Regular Session
May 29, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 10:11 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 Kendricks "Ken" Brass
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr., vice chairman
Representative Stephen F. Carter
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Reid Falconer
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Polly Thomas

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Scott M. Simon

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Beverly Vincent, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Resolution No. 228 by Representative McFarland

Representative McFarland presented House Resolution No. 228, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study challenges of rural school systems impacted by economic downturn.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 228 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 228 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, and Thomas voted yea.

House Resolution No. 210 by Representative Nancy Landry

On behalf of Representative Nancy Landry, Chris Broadwater, vice president for workforce policy, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, 265 South Foster, Baton Rouge, LA, (985) 634-3283, presented House Resolution No. 210, which requests that the Louisiana Community and Technical College System continue a pilot scholarship program for certain adults.

Representative Bouie offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 210 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 210 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, and Thomas 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.

Senate Bill No. 158 by Senator Donahue

Senator Donahue presented Senate Bill No. 158, which provides for the creation of local special education advisory councils.

Liz Gary, 2154 West Ridge Drive, Mandeville, LA 70448, (504) 858-8633, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 158.

Ashley McReynolds, 1862 Tudor Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70815, (225) 715-5740, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 158.

Representative Falconer offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 158 that remove the requirement that the local superintendent and administrative head of the charter or other school seek applications from teachers, principals, paraprofessionals, and other stakeholders. Representative Falconer offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Falconer offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 158 that would:

1. Add a requirement that the local public school superintendent or administrative head of the charter school or other public school designate the chairperson of the council who shall call the council's meetings, preside over the meetings, and establish the agendas for the meetings.
2. Add that there shall be no liability or cause of action against the public school district, public charter school or other public school, or any officer or employee thereof for any action taken by members of the council.

Representative Falconer 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, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 158 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 158 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 62 by Representative Duplessis

Representative Duplessis presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 62, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study the feasibility of restructuring the MFP formula.

Eva Kemp, Democrats for Education Reform LA, 900 Camp Street, Suite 360, New Orleans, LA 70130, (225) 229-0655, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 62.

Leslie Leavoy, Democrats for Education Reform LA, 900 Camp Street, Suite 360, New Orleans, LA 70122, (337) 401-8881, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 62.

Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 62 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 62 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, and Smith voted yea.

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

House Resolution No. 222 by Representative Steve Carter

Representative Steve Carter presented House Resolution No. 222, which requests that the state Department of Education establish the Louisiana Early Literacy Commission.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 222 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 222 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, and Smith voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 12 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 96 by Representative Falconer

Representative Falconer presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 96, which requests that the Board of Regents study and make recommendations relative to student debt relief measures.

Kim Hunter Reed, Louisiana Board of Regents, 1201 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-4253, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 96.

Representative Falconer offered amendments to House Concurrent Resolution No. 96 that would:

1. Specify that the report shall be submitted to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.
2. Add a requirement that the findings and recommendations include the development of a method to inform students regarding salary and job openings.

Representative Falconer 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,

Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Falconer offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 96 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 96 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Smith, and Thomas 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.

Senate Bill No. 243 by Senator Morrish

Senator Morrish presented Senate Bill No. 243, which creates the Dual Enrollment Framework Task Force.

Kim Hunter Reed, Louisiana Board of Regents, 1201 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-4253, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 243 and presented a handout labeled Exhibit A, "Dual Enrollment Opportunity", which is included in the committee records.

Representative Nancy Landry offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 243 that add the president of the Council for a Better Louisiana and the executive director of Stand for Children to the task force. 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, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Gary Carter offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 243 that add a representative from the Louisiana Public Charter School Association to the task force. Representative Gary Carter 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, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hilferty, Leger, and Thomas voted yea.

Karen Denby, Louisiana Board of Regents, 1201 North 3rd Street, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-4253, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 243.

Michael Faulk, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 9412 Sagefield Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70818, (225) 229-6021, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 243.

Dr. Janet Pope, Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 243.

Representative Gary Carter offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 243 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 243 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Hilferty, Leger, and Thomas 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.

Representative Steve Carter in the chair.

Senate Bill No. 117 by Senator Walsworth

Senator Walsworth presented Senate Bill No. 117, which provides relative to postsecondary textbooks and instructional materials.

Kim Hunter Reed (no witness card), Louisiana Board of Regents, 1201 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-4253, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 117.

Terri Gallaway, Louisiana Board of Regents: LOUIS Project, no address given, (419) 410-1595, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 117.

Erin Bendily (no witness card), State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1201 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 117.

Taylor Scott, student body vice president, LSU Student Government Association, LSU Union, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, (225) 578-5007, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 117.

Chandler Vidrine, Southern University Student Government Association, 1852 Kembe Avenue, Ville Platte, LA 70586, (337) 454-0491, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 117.

Ricky Brazzle, LSU-Alexandria Student Government Association, Alexandria, LA, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 117.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 117 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 117 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 14 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 108 by Representative Simon

On behalf of Representative Simon, Representative Nancy Landry presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 108, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study school calendar options for public schools.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 108 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 108 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedée, Bouie, Brass, Gary Carter, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, and Thomas voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Nancy Landry
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: