

## **House Committee on Education**

Minutes of Meeting  
2021 Regular Session  
May 18, 2021

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Mark Wright, vice chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Beryl A. Amedée  
Representative Kendrick "Ken" Brass  
Representative Rick Edmonds  
Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman  
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg  
Representative Patrick O. Jefferson  
Representative Charles Anthony Owen  
Representative Laurie Schlegel  
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc III  
Representative Mark Wright, vice chairman

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Raymond E. Garofalo, Jr., chairman  
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr.  
Representative Stephanie Hilferty  
Representative Tammy T. Phelps  
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Elizabeth L. Borne, legislative analyst  
Lisa Lovello, legislative analyst  
Jacqueline Snowden, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms  
Kylan Melancon, clerk

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****Senate Bill No. 10 by Senator Fields**

Senator Fields presented Senate Bill No. 10, which provides for mandatory kindergarten attendance and requires compulsory school attendance beginning at age five.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt a two-minute rule during discussion of legislation, to which Representative Freiberg objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion to adopt a two-minute rule passed by a vote of 7 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Schlegel, and Wright voted yea. Representative Freiberg voted nay.

Dr. Janet Pope, executive director, Louisiana School Boards Association, 620 Florida Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 769-3191, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 10.

Sarah Vandergriff, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, 320 Metairie Hammond Highway, Metairie, LA 70005, (504) 430-6749, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 10.

Representative Amedee offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 10 that would provide that homeschoolers enrolled in an approved homestudy program or a nonpublic school seeking state approval shall be considered in compliance with the school attendance provisions. Representative Amedee offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Wright voted yea.

Jessie Leger, Homeschool Louisiana, 3345 Montgomery Street, Mandeville, LA 70448, (985) 231-9099, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 10.

Ethan Melancon, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1201 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (985) 859-4649, (no witness card submitted), spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 10.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 10 with amendments. Representative Edmonds offered a substitute motion to report Senate Bill No. 10 without action and recommit to the House Committee on Appropriations. Without objection, the substitute motion

passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 15 in support and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **Senate Bill No. 246 by Senator Tarver**

On behalf of Senator Tarver, Senate Fields presented Senate Bill No. 246, which provides relative to the creation of an international language immersion school.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 246 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 246 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Wright voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 563 by Representative Garofalo**

On behalf of Representative Garofalo, Representative Jefferson presented House Bill No. 563, which provides relative to the sharing of certain student data.

Kim Hunter Reed, Louisiana commissioner of higher education, Louisiana Board of Regents, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 6-200, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-4253, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 563.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to adopt a substitute bill for House Bill No. 563. Without objection, the substitute bill for House Bill No. 563 was adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Wright voted yea.

Representative Freeman offered a motion to report House Bill No. 563 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 563 was reported by substitute by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Schlegel, and St. Blanc voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**Senate Bill No. 216 by Senator Robert Mills**

Senator Robert Mills presented Senate Bill No. 216, which requires early literacy professional development for certain teachers.

Dr. Cade Brumley, state superintendent of education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 216.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 216 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 216 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Schlegel, and St. Blanc voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 11 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 15 by Senator Milligan**

On behalf of Senator Milligan, Representative Edmonds presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 15, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to create a Purple Star School Award Program.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 15 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 15 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Schlegel, and St. Blanc voted yea.

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

**Senate Bill No. 211 by Senator Jackson**

Senator Jackson presented Senate Bill No. 211, which requires in-service training for teachers and certain other school personnel on adverse childhood experiences and trauma-informed education.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 211 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 211 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Schlegel, and St. Blanc voted yea.

**Senate Bill No. 27 by Senator Foil**

On behalf of Senator Foil, Dr. Kim Hunter Reed presented Senate Bill No. 27, which provides relative to military and veteran friendly postsecondary education policies.

Kim Hunter Reed, Louisiana commissioner of higher education, Louisiana Board of Regents, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 6-200, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-4253, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 27.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 27 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 27 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Schlegel, and St. Blanc voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedee, Brass, Edmonds, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Schlegel, and St. Blanc voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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House Committee on Education

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

Date adopted: