

## **House Committee on Education**

Minutes of Meeting  
2022 Regular Session  
March 23, 2022

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

Representative Lance Harris, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Lance Harris, chairman  
Representative Kendricks "Ken" Brass  
Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman  
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg  
Representative Stephanie Hilferty  
Representative Patrick O. Jefferson, vice chairman  
Representative Charles Anthony Owen  
Representative Tammy T. Phelps  
Representative Laurie Schlegel  
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III  
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Beryl A. Amedée

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

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

#### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms  
Kalan Jenkins, clerk

### III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

#### House Bill No. 207 by Representative Hughes

Representative Hughes presented House Bill No. 207, which adds Geometry as a required course for high school students in the career major program.

Representative Harris offered amendments to House Bill No. 207 that, relative to TOPS-Tech, would add Geometry as a required course for initial eligibility.

Representative Harris offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Dr. Cade Brumley, Louisiana Department of Education, no address given, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 207.

Representative Freeman offered a motion to report House Bill No. 207 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 207 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### House Bill No. 88 by Representative Harris

Representative Harris presented House Bill No. 88, which provides for Celebrate Freedom Week in public schools.

Dr. Cade Brumley, Louisiana Department of Education, no address given, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 88.

David Lindenfeld, 4759 Newcomb Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 766-1983, spoke in support of House Bill No. 88.

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to report House Bill No. 88 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 88 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver 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.

#### **House Bill No. 133 by Representative Harris**

Representative Harris presented House Bill No. 133, which provides for technical corrections and revision of provisions of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Representative Harris offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 133. Representative Harris offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to report House Bill No. 133 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 133 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver 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.

#### **House Bill No. 201 by Representative Harris**

Representative Harris presented House Bill No. 201, which re-creates the Department of Education.

Representative Harris offered a motion to report House Bill No. 201 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 201 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver 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.

#### **House Bill No. 333 by Representative Brass**

Representative Brass presented House Bill No. 333, which requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to include information on certain curricula options as part of the secondary school advisement policy. Representative Brass provided a handout entitled "Dual Enrollment Student Advising", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Susannah Craig, Louisiana Board of Regents, no address given, (225) 346-6754, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 333.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 333 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 333 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 211 by Representative McKnight**

Representative McKnight presented House Bill No. 211, which provides relative to the membership of the board of directors of the Special School District.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 211 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 211 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 131 by Representative Coussan**

Representative Coussan presented House Bill No. 131, which provides relative to the salary schedules of teachers whose employment is interrupted by military service.

Michael Faulk, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 2713 Indian Mound Boulevard, Monroe, LA 71201, (225) 229-6021, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 131.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 131 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 131 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver 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.

#### **House Bill No. 550 by Representative Emerson**

Representative Emerson presented House Bill No. 550, which provides relative to learning pods established by charter schools.

Brigitte Nieland, Stand for Children, 601 Laurel Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 603-5668, spoke in support of House Bill No. 550.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 550 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 550 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 417 by Representative Hilferty**

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 417, which authorizes early learning centers to maintain a supply of auto-injectable epinephrine.

Alice Hoyt, M.D., 323 West Livingston Place, Metairie, LA 70005, (985) 788-1107, spoke in support of House Bill No. 417.

Representative Hilferty offered amendments to House Bill No. 417 that:

1. Provide that an anaphylaxis training organization may provide the required training in administering auto-injectable epinephrine to early learning center employees and add a definition of such organizations.
2. Add a provision for training by an anaphylaxis training organization to present law regarding public elementary and secondary schools.

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Michael Faulk, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 2713 Indian Mound Boulevard, Monroe, LA 71201, (225) 229-6021, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 417.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to report House Bill No. 417 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 417 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver 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 Bill No. 315 by Representative Turner**

On behalf of Representative Turner, Leslie Hill, Special School District, presented House Bill No. 315, which provides for the Blind and Visually Impaired Student's Bill of Rights.

Representative Harris offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 315.

Representative Harris offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Freeman offered a motion to report House Bill No. 315 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 315 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

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

### **House Bill No. 548 by Representative Freeman**

Representative Freeman presented House Bill No. 548, which requires the state Department of Education to develop and distribute health and safety guidelines relative to best practices for the use of digital devices in public schools.

Representative Freeman offered amendments to House Bill No. 548 that would:

1. Change the requirement for the state Department of Education to collaborate with the Louisiana Department of Health and professional medical societies to a requirement that the state Department of Education collaborate with the Louisiana Department of Health and certain medical practitioners.
2. Add requirements for the state Department of Education to annually review the guidelines.

Representative Freeman offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Marin Antée, 2323 Lowerline Street, no city given, (504) 717-0679, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Tracy R. Helms-Capasso, 7715 Nelson Street, New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 282-9348, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

R. Fortier Benson, MD, P.O. Box 703, Mandeville, LA 70447, (985) 807-4054, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Kirk P. Groh, 427 Exposition Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 891-3907, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Holly Groh, MD, 427 Exposition Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 891-3907, spoke in support of House Bill No. 548.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to report House Bill No. 548 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 548 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 9 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Tarver offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lancee Harris", is written over the printed name and title.

Chairman Lancee Harris  
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: