

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
April 6, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Lance Harris, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lance Harris, chairman
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Kendrick "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:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms
Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms

Kalan Jenkins, clerk
Hailey Austin, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 33 by Representative DeVillier

Representative DeVillier presented House Bill No. 33, which creates and provides for a program to provide state funding for the education of students not enrolled in public school.

Representative Harris offered amendments to House Bill No. 33 that:

1. Removed the requirement that the entity contracted with for program administration be a nonprofit organization.
2. Changed funding amount from the state's per-pupil amount allocated to the student's resident school system to the state's average per-pupil allocation.
3. Deleted the use of a debit card from the list of examples of funds transfer methods.
4. Revised testing requirements.

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, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Charles Owen offered amendments to House Bill No. 33 to add that an eligible student shall be considered in attendance at a day school for purposes of compulsory attendance.

Representative Charles Owen 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, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Kaleb Moore American Federation for Children, P.O. Box 6905, New Orleans LA 70174, (337) 396-0196, spoke in support of House Bill No. 33.

Dr. Erin Bendily, Pelican Institute, no address given, spoke in support of House Bill No. 33.

Dr. Cade Brumley, state superintendent of education, Louisiana Department of Education, no address given, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 33.

Ethan Melancon, state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1201 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (935) 859-4649, spoke in support of House Bill No. 33.

Kim Carver, Gulf Coast Bank, 7 Carriage Lane, Mandeville, LA, (504) 450-9326, spoke in support of House Bill No. 33.

Anna Palmer, 6144 Louis XIV Street, New Orleans, LA 70124, (504) 554-1833, spoke in support of House Bill No. 33.

Brandy Pou, Unmask Our Kids Louisiana, 10987 Cattail Point, Shreveport, LA 71106, (318) 401-0713, spoke in support of House Bill No. 33.

Michael Faulk, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 2713 Indian Mound Boulevard, Monroe, LA 71201, (225) 229-6021, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 33.

Justin McCorkle, NOLA Public Schools, Orleans Parish School Board, 2701 Westbend Parkway, no city given, (504) 952-9466, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 33.

Marcus Thomas, Louisiana Association of Educators (LAE), 8322 One Calais Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 380-0927, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 33.

Mary-Patricia Wray, 2360 Tulip Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 395-9961, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 33.

Melissa S. Flournoy, Louisiana Progress Action, 650 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 936-7200, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 33.

Dr. Janet Pope, Louisiana School Boards Association, 620 Florida Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 769-3191, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 33.

Cynthia Posey, Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 33.

Jennifer Carignan, Louisiana Save Our Schools, 719 South Taylor Street, Covington, LA, (240) 893-9501, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 33.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 33 with amendments, to which Representative Jefferson objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 33 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Freiberg, Hilferty, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea. Representatives Brass, Freeman, Jefferson, and Phelps voted nay.

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to invoke a 3-minute rule for discussion on the remaining agenda items. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support, and 13 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 452 by Representative Freiberg

Representative Freiberg presented House Bill No. 452, which creates and provides for a program to provide state funding for the education of certain students who have been victims of bullying and are not enrolled in public school.

Representative Freiberg offered amendments to House Bill No. 452 that:

1. Removed a requirement that the entity contracted with for program administration be a nonprofit organization.
2. Added that state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) rules shall include a requirement that the program begin enrolling students by the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Changed the funding amount from the state's per-pupil amount allocated to the student's resident school system to the state's average per-pupil allocation.
4. Added that the Department of Education (DOE) may withhold funds allocated for program administration.
5. Deleted the use of a debit card from the list of examples of funds transfer methods.
6. Relative to eligibility criteria for service providers, required BESE to set these in a way that maximized provider participation.
7. Added the results of the parental satisfaction survey to the content required in the annual DOE report.

Representative Freiberg 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, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Phelps, Schlegel, and St. Blanc voted yea.

Representative Freiberg offered amendments to House Bill No. 452 that would expand options for bullied students in instances involving sexual assault. Representative Freiberg offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of

12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Amedée offered amendments to House Bill No. 452 that an eligible student shall be considered in attendance at a day school for purposes of compulsory attendance. Representative Amedée offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Dr. Erin Bendily, Pelican Institute, no address given, spoke in support of House Bill No. 452.

Morgan Lamandre, Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response (STAR), 5615 Corporate Boulevard, Suite 200, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 615-7093, spoke in support of House Bill No. 452.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 452 with amendments, to which Representative Phelps objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 452 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Freiberg, Hilferty, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea. Representatives Brass, Jefferson, and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 11 in support, and 8 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 824 by Representative Schlegel

Representative Schlegel presented House Bill No. 824, which creates and provides for a program to provide state funding for the education of students not enrolled in a public school.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to House Bill No. 824 that:

1. State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) rules shall include a requirement that the program begin enrolling participating students by the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.
2. The state Department of Education may withhold funds allocated for program administration.

Representative Schlegel 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, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Amedée offered amendments to House Bill No. 824 that an eligible student shall be considered in attendance at a day school for purposes of compulsory attendance. Representative

Amedée 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, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Ethan Melancon, BESE, 1201 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (925) 859-4669, spoke in support of House Bill No. 824.

Lauren Gleason, Louisiana Association of Business & Industry, 500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 215-6650, spoke in support of House Bill No. 824.

Dr. Erin Bendily, Pelican Institute, no address given, spoke in support of House Bill No. 824.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 824 with amendments, to which Representative Phelps objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 824 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Freiberg, Hilferty, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea. Representatives Brass, Jefferson, and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support, and 10 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 194 by Representative Butler

Representative Butler presented House Bill No. 194, which creates and provides for a program to provide state funding for the education of students with exceptionalities not enrolled in public school.

Representative Harris offered amendments to House Bill No. 194 that:

1. Removed a requirement that the entity contracted with for program administration and for management of the payment system be a nonprofit organization.
2. Added that state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) rules shall include a requirement that the program begin enrolling participating students by the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Changed funding amount from the state's per-pupil amount allocated to the student's resident school system, considering all student characteristics, to the state's base per-pupil allocation, plus any applicable weighted funds based on student characteristics.
4. Added that the Department of Education (DOE) may withhold funds allocated for program administration.

5. Deleted the use of a debit card from the list of examples of funds transfer methods.
6. Relative to school eligibility:
 - (a) Removed the requirement that a school must have existed and been providing educational services to students with exceptionalities in an established program with appropriately certified teachers for at least two years prior to participation.
 - (b) Retained the requirement that a school be BESE-approved but removed the requirement for approval for at least the prior school year.
7. Relative to eligibility criteria for schools and service providers, required BESE to set these in a way that maximizes school and provider participation.
8. Revised testing requirements.
9. Added the results of the parental satisfaction survey to content required in the annual DOE report.

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, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Lauren Gleason, Louisiana Association of Business & Industry, 500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 215-6650, spoke in support of House Bill No. 194.

Dr. Erin Bendily, Pelican Institute, no address given, spoke in support of House Bill No. 194.

Representative Amedée offered amendments to House Bill No. 194 that an eligible student shall be considered in attendance at a day school for purposes of compulsory attendance. Representative Amedée 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, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to report House Bill No. 194 with amendments, to which Representative Phelps objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 194 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Freiberg, Hilferty, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea. Representatives Brass, Jefferson, and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 12 in support, and 11 in opposition. 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: 1 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 838 by Representative Garofalo

Representative Garofalo presented House Bill No. 838, which creates and provides for a program to provide state funding for the education of students not enrolled in a public school.

Representative Harris offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 838. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 838 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

House Bill No. 618 by Representative Nelson

Representative Nelson presented House Bill No. 618, which allows certain patriotic organizations to access school facilities and grants their representatives the opportunity to speak to and recruit students.

Dennis Pennington, Evangeline Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, 6283 Claude Road, Maurice, LA 70555, (337) 296-6356, spoke in support of House Bill No. 618.

Michael Faulk, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 2713 Indian Mound Boulevard, Monroe, LA 71201, (225) 229-6121, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 618.

Dannie Garrett, Louisiana School Boards Association, 635 Main Street, #3, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 618.

Randy K. Haynie, Haynie & Associates, P.O. Box 44032, Capitol Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 235-7049, submitted a copy of U.S. Title 36 – Patriotic and National Observances, Ceremonies, And Organizations, labeled Exhibit B in the committee records.

Representative Amedée offered a motion to report House Bill No. 618 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 618 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 736 by Representative Beaulieu

Representative Beaulieu presented House Bill No. 736, which establishes the Athletic Trainer Professional Development Program in the Department of Education and provides for administration, qualification, and implementation of the various components of the program.

Jason Dunavant, Louisiana Athletic Trainer Association, 1905 Filhiol Avenue, Monroe, LA 71203, (318) 512-5679, spoke in support of House Bill No. 736.

Ethan Melancon, state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1205 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (925) 859-4669, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 736.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 736 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 736 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 349 by Representative Bryant

Representative Bryant presented House Bill No. 349, which provides relative to the removal of school bus operators.

Marcus Thomas, Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke in support of House Bill No. 349.

Mary-Patricia Wray, Louisiana School Bus Operators Association, 2360 Tulip Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 395-9961, spoke in support of House Bill No. 349.

Representative Harris offered amendments to House Bill No. 349 to add effectiveness upon signature by the governor. 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, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 349 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 349 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Hilferty, Charles Owen, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 2 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 363 by Representative Bryant

Representative Bryant presented House Bill No. 363, which provides relative to the student growth component in the evaluation of teachers and administrators.

Marcus Thomas, Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke in support of House Bill No. 363.

Ethan Melancon, state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1201 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (925) 859-4669, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 363.

Joseph David, Louisiana Association of Principals, 7409 Highway 90, Roanoke, LA 70581, (337) 526-0003, spoke in support of House Bill No. 363.

Cynthia Posey, Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037, spoke in support of House Bill No. 363.

Lauren Gleason, Louisiana Association of Business & Industry, 500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 215-6650, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 363.

Dr. Erin Bendily, Pelican Institute, no address given, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 363.

Representative Freiberg offered amendments to House Bill No. 363 to mandate that a person being evaluated would meet with his evaluator to discuss each student's learning targets. Representative Freiberg 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, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Jefferson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 363 with amendments. No vote was taken.

Dr. Tia Mills, 8322 One Calais Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 380-0927, spoke in support of House Bill No. 363.

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. 363.

Representative Jefferson withdrew his motion.

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

House Bill No. 495 by Representative Schlegel

Representative Schlegel presented House Bill No. 495, which requires the implementation of suicide prevention, student safety, and violence prevention and social inclusion training and the creation of clubs at certain public schools.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to House Bill No. 495 that changed the subject of training from student safety, violence prevention, and social inclusion to student safety and violence and social isolation prevention. Representative Schlegel 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, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Erin Sims, CIS Gulf South, no address given, spoke in support of House Bill No. 495.

Josh McAllister, Winn Parish, 208 Shady Hills Lane, Winnfield, LA 71483, (318) 332-9699, spoke in support of House Bill No. 495.

Toni McAllister, Winn Parish, 208 Shady Hills Lane, Winnfield, LA 71483, (318) 729-1726, spoke in support of House Bill No. 495.

Representative Freeman offered a motion to report House Bill No. 495 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 495 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 13 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 231 by Representative Brass

Representative Brass presented House Bill No. 231, which provides for the transfer of academic credit from public postsecondary education institutions that grant bachelor's degrees to institutions that grant associate's degrees.

Lauren Gleason, Louisiana Association of Business & Industry, 500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 215-6650, spoke in support of House Bill No. 231.

Representative Brass offered amendments to House Bill No. 231 to add a requirement that the Board of Regents and the Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council collaborate to develop processes relative to the reverse transfer of academic credits. Representative Brass 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, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Freeman offered a motion to report House Bill No. 231 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 231 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 567 by Representative Boyd

Representative Boyd presented House Bill No. 567, which creates the Lifestyle Choices pilot program.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to report House Bill No. 567 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 567 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

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

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Adoption of minutes from the 2021 Regular Session dated April 22, 2021, April 27, 2021, April 28, 2021, May 4, 2021, May 5, 2021, May 12, 2021, May 18, 2021, May 25, 2021, May 26, 2021, May 27, 2021, and June 2, 2021.

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

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

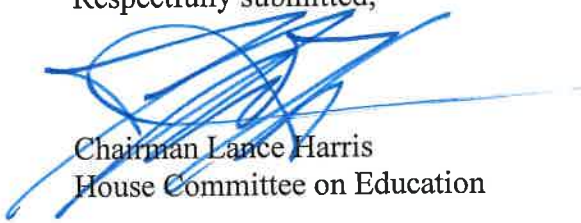
There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Hilferty offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Hilferty, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman Lance Harris
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: