

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
April 13, 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 Kendricks "Ken" Brass
Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg
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 Stephanie Hilferty

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
Hailey Austin, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 509 by Representative Mincey

Representative Mincey presented House Bill No. 509, which requires the state Department of Education to review laws pertaining to teacher training and submit a related report to the legislature.

Representative Mincey distributed two documents, "Report to the House and Senate Committees on Education of the Louisiana Legislature: Response to HR 126 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session, February 12, 2022", and "Louisiana School Boards Association Teacher Training Guidelines", labeled Exhibit A in the committee meeting records.

Ethan Melancon, Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (985) 859-4649, spoke in support of House Bill No. 509.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 509 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 509 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Schlegel, and Tarver voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 510 by Representative Mincey

Representative Mincey presented House Bill No. 510, which provides relative to the effectiveness of additional teacher training requirements.

Representative Harris offered amendments to House Bill No. 510 that, relative to provisions that must be made for a new training requirement to become effective, provided that the training is received at a time when a teacher is not only compensated but also not participating in local professional development activities. 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, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Schlegel, and Tarver voted yea.

Michael Faulk, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 2713 Indian Mound Boulevard, Monroe, LA 71201, (225) 229-6021, spoke in support of House Bill No. 510.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 510 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 510 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Chairman Harris instituted the three-minute rule for presenters and speakers on ensuing instruments.

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. 196 by Representative Nelson

Representative Nelson presented House Bill No. 196, which creates the Stimulating More Advanced Research and Technology (SMART) Program and the SMART Fund for the purpose of awarding grants to support research at public postsecondary education institutions.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 196 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 196 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 470 by Representative McKnight

Representative McKnight presented House Bill No. 470, which provides relative to the collection and sharing of certain student information.

Representative Harris offered amendments to House Bill No. 470 that:

- (1) Broadened the applicability to all public secondary school students, instead of only those pursuing career majors.
- (2) Added a provision authorizing students who have reached the age of majority to grant permission to share their personal data, instead of solely the parent or guardian.
- (3) Specified that employment data collected shall be wage data, North American Industry Classification System data, and Standard Occupational Classification System data.
- (4) Added a provision relative to payment of costs of wage and employment data.

Representative Harris offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Jefferson, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Dr. Erin Bendily, Pelican Institute, no address provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 470.

Angela B. Alef, The People, LLC, Prytania Street, New Orleans, LA, (504) 450-6112, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 470.

Karen Champagne, The People, LLC, Prytania Street, New Orleans, LA, (504) 427-3799, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 470.

Kellie Taylor-White, Louisiana Workforce Commission, 1001 North 23rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70815, (210) 241-2527, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 470.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 470 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 470 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 8 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: 2 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 215 by Representative White

Representative White presented House Bill No. 215, which provides relative to the compensation of school bus operators.

Representative Freeman offered a motion to report House Bill No. 215 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 215 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Phelps, 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. 499 by Representative Amedée

Representative Amedée presented House Bill No. 499, which creates a fund for the purpose of funding tuition exemptions and reduction of textbook costs for persons who are age fifty-five or older.

Representative Amedée offered amendments to House Bill No. 499 that limited disbursements from the fund to \$200 per credit hour. Representative Amedée 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, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Tim Mathis, Louisiana Legislative Fiscal Office, no witness card provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 499.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 499 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 499 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Phelps, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 914 by Representative Crews

Representative Crews presented House Bill No. 914, which provides relative to treatment of students with seizure disorders and training of school employees.

Amanda Mitchell, 43527 McClain Lane, Hammond, LA 70403, (225) 718-4761, spoke in support of House Bill No. 914.

Ethan Melancon, Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (985) 851-4669, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 914.

Representative Amedée offered a motion to report House Bill No. 914 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 914 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Jefferson, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

House Bill No. 852 by Representative Schlegel

Representative Schlegel presented House Bill No. 852, which creates a book delivery program for certain public school students.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to House Bill No. 852 that:

- (1) Specified that books shall be age-appropriate and exclude any material harmful to minors.
- (2) Added certain pre-kindergarten students to the list of eligible students for the program.

- (3) Relative to parental election for their child's participation in the program, changed from an opt-in to an opt-out.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Brass, Freiberg, Jefferson, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Larry Holland, Scholastic, Inc., 17 New Bethel Road, Tylertown, MS 39667, spoke in support of House Bill No. 852.

DeJunné Clark Jackson, The Center for Literacy and Learning, 530 Lakeland Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (833) 792-1874, spoke in support of House Bill No. 852.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 852 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 852 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Brass, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Schlegel, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those 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

Chairman Harris announced that House Bill No. 391 by Representative Bryant, which provides relative to tuition for nonresident students at postsecondary education institutions who are children of graduates from such institutions, had been voluntarily deferred at the request of the author.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman Lance Harris
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: