

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
May 4, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Lance Harris, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:05 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 Aimee Adatto Freeman
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg
Representative Patrick O. Jefferson, vice chairman
Representative Charles Anthony Owen
Representative Tammy T. Phelps
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Kendricks "Ken" Brass
Representative Stephanie Hilferty

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
Kalan Jenkins, clerk
Hailey Austin, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Representative Harris offered a motion to adopt a three-minute rule for presenters, witnesses, and members to speak. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 191 by Senator Hewitt

Senator Hewitt presented Senate Bill No. 191, which provides relative to high school core curriculum requirements.

Terri Hammatt, 242 Delgado, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 603-8898, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 191.

Gwenn Laviolette, Louisiane-Acadie, 4918 Rougon Road, Port Allen, LA 70767, (225) 281-5859, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 191.

Representative Charles Owen offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 191 favorably, to which Representative Amedée objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 191 was reported favorably by a vote of 6 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Harris, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea. Representatives Amedée and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support, 2 in opposition, 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: 1 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 356 by Representative Amedée

Representative Amedée presented House Bill No. 356, which provides for the right of parents to access and examine lessons used in their child's education.

Jennifer Carignan, Louisiana Save Our Schools, 719 South Taylor Street, Covington, LA 70433, (240) 893-9501, spoke in support of House Bill No. 356.

Mary Anne Mushall, 60405 Robertson Street, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 861-5293, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 356.

Representative Charles Owen offered a motion to report House Bill No. 356 favorably, to which Representative Jefferson objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 356 was reported favorably by a vote of 6 yeas and 2 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Freiberg, Charles Owen, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea. Representatives Jefferson and Phelps voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, and 8 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: 7 in support, and 94 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Vice Chairman Jefferson in the chair.

House Bill No. 369 by Representative Harris

Representative Harris presented House Bill No. 369, which requires public school governing authorities and public schools to post on their websites laws pertaining to parental access to instructional materials and the Parents' Bill of Rights.

Representative Jefferson offered amendments that required the information to be distributed to parents during the first week of school annually. Representative Jefferson 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, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 369 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 369 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Emerson, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, 3 in opposition, 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: 6 in support, and 94 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 453 by Representative Harris

Representative Harris presented House Bill No. 453, which requires each public school governing authority to post on its website information relative to instructional materials and activities for each school under its jurisdiction.

Representative Harris offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 453. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 453 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Emerson, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, 3 in opposition, and 2 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: 94 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Chairman Harris in the chair.

House Bill No. 781 by Representative Phelps

Representative Phelps presented House Bill No. 781, which requires public high schools to provide an opportunity for certain students to register to vote. Representative Phelps showed a video of a C-SPAN broadcast of the United States House of Representatives in session entitled "Voter Registration Day".

Representative Phelps offered amendments that:

1. Provided for the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May to be known as Louisiana High School Seniors Voter Registration Day.
2. Removed a requirement that principals provide an annual opportunity for high school seniors to register to vote.

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

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 781 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 781 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays.

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

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

Senate Bill No. 44 by Senator Mizell

Senator Mizell presented Senate Bill No. 44, which provides for the Fairness in Womens Sports Act relative to a school's ability to offer equal opportunities to each student to participate in team sporting events on an equal basis.

Jennifer Marusak, P.O. Box 66412, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 572-1916, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 44.

Patricia Hebert Landaiche, 13108 East Coles Creek Loop, Hammond, LA 70403, (985) 974-3174, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 44.

Anne Metz, 2333 South Sherman, Denver, CO 80210, (903) 808-5798, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 44.

Laura Huber, Concerned Women for America, 416 Choctaw Drive, Abita Springs, LA 70420, (504) 236-8546, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 44 and provided a handout, "Concerned Women For America Legislative Action Commission: Testimony in Support of SB 44", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Jennifer Carignan, Louisiana Save Our Schools, 719 South Taylor Street, Covington, LA 70433, (240) 893-9501, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 44 and provided a handout, "NCAA Events in States with Save Women's Sports Laws (3021-2026)", Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Peyton Rose Michelle, Louisiana Trans Advocates, 1099 Ruth Drive, St. Martinville, LA 70582, (337) 356-9312, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

Sarah Lane Guidry, Forum for Equality, 4915 South Claiborne Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 301-6006, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

Mar Ehrlich, Real Name Campaign NOLA, 2513 Annunciation Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, (617) 240-2763, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

SK Groll, 340 Steele Boulevard #A, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (924) 771-3642, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

Serena Borne, Real Name Campaign, 8438 Sycamore Street, New Orleans, LA, (504) 908-9650, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

J. Martel, Real Name Campaign, 2102 Audubon Street, New Orleans, LA 70118, (502) 573-0828, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

Natalie Elethorp, 119 Sandy Ridge Road, Eros, LA 71238, (318) 450-9854, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

Julien Gills, 2534 North Roman Street, New Orleans, LA 70117, (504) 758-4428, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

Rachel Gassert, 908 Poland Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117, (504) 323-5717, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

Melissa Flournoy, Louisiana Progress Action, 650 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 936-7200, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 44.

Representative Amedée offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 44 favorably, to which Representative Freeman objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 44 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Emerson, Jefferson, Charles Owen, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea. Representative Freeman voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 14 in support, and 24 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: 10 in support, and 44 in opposition. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 169 by Senator Mizell

Senator Mizell presented Senate Bill No. 169, which requires annual meetings of and reports from the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission.

Vice Chairman Jefferson in the chair.

Representative Freeman offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 169 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 169 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Emerson, Freeman, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 13 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 189 by Senator White

Senator White presented Senate Bill No. 189, which provides relative to the jurisdiction of the Central Community School System.

Chairman Harris in the chair.

Sharon Browning, 9531 Watts Road, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 357-9658, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 189.

Kim Powers, Central Community School Board, 12515 Sullivan Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70818, (225) 921-8784, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 189.

Belinda Davis, 4540 Hyacinth Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 202-2698, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Murelle C. Harrison, Greenwood Civic Association, 10733 Malcolm Drive, no city or state given, (225) 773-4341, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Michael D. McFarland, Jr., 10733 Greencrest Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Walter Evans, Greenwood Subdivision, 10810 Malcolm Drive, (504) 427-6459, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Chad Collins, 8424 Hickock Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 456-3800, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

SK Groll, 340 Steele Boulevard #A, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (924) 771-3642, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

William Satterwhite, Greenwood Homeowners Association, 11358 Fieldcrest Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70811, (225) 202-3466, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Jean Falgoust, Greenwood Civic Association, 7645 Anderson Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70811, (225) 774-6907, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Maxwell Ciardullo, Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center, 1340 Poydras Street, Suite 710, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

John Norwood, Jr., Greenwood Subdivision, 10938 Fieldcrest Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70811, (225) 806-4916, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Atherine Walker, Comite Estates Homeowners Association, 8549 Cody Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189 and provided a petition, "Comite Estates Homeowners Association", Exhibit C, which is included in the committee records.

James Canfield, Greenwood Subdivision, 10855 Fieldcrest Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70811, (513) 680-5464, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Sandra Hall, 8514 Hooper Road, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 276-2227, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Keith Cootman, 7947 Meadow Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70811, (225) 928-1191, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Nick Fakouri, Tower Capital, 6160 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 757-1180, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

James Finney, 8121 Oak View Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70814, (225) 252-0412, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Kaittyn Joshua, 12296 Oak Colony Drive, Geismar, LA 75134, (225) 545-4334, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Edgar Cage, Together Baton Rouge, 2019 Government Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70805, (225) 274-5808, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Councilman Darryl Hurst, District No. 5, East Baton Rouge Metro Council, 11356 Norwich Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70814, (225) 200-5416, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 189.

Representative Jefferson offered amendments that would have provided that the siblings of students enrolled in the Central Community School System could also enroll in the system, even if they lived outside the geographic boundaries. Representative Jefferson 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, Emerson, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 189 with amendments. No vote was taken.

Representative Amedée offered a substitute motion to involuntarily defer action on Senate Bill No. 189. No vote was taken.

Senator White voluntarily deferred Senate Bill No. 189.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 50 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: 134 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 377 by Senator Peacock

Senator Peacock presented Senate Bill No. 377, which provides relative to teacher certification requirements.

Marcus Thomas, Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 380-0927, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 377.

Ethan Melancon, Louisiana Department of Education / State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 377.

James Finney, 8121 Oak View Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70814, (225) 252-0412, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 377.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 377 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 377 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 94 by Senator Jackson

On behalf of Senator Jackson, Representative Jefferson presented Senate Bill No. 94, which provides relative to instruction on child assault awareness and prevention in public schools.

Representative Harris offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 94 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 94 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Harris, Amedée, Freiberg, Jefferson, Charles Owen, Phelps, 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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

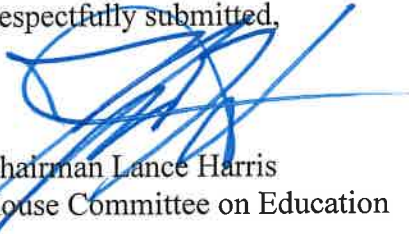
Chairman Harris announced that House Bill No. 983 by Representative Bishop, which authorizes the transfer of funds from a START account to a START K12 account, would be heard at a subsequent meeting.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman Lance Harris
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: