

House Committee on Retirement

Minutes of Meeting
2022 Regular Session
May 19, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Phillip R. DeVillier, chairman of the House Committee on Retirement, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Phillip R. DeVillier, chairman
Representative Roy Daryl Adams
Representative Tony Bacala
Representative Delisha Boyd
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment
Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman
Representative John R. Illg, Jr., vice chairman
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Patrick O. Jefferson
Representative Vanessa Caston LaFleur

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Paul Hollis
Representative Richard James Nelson
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bryan D. Vincent, division director
Joey David, legislative analyst
Jennifer Watson, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Kalan Jenkins, clerk
Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 434 by Senator Fields

On behalf of Senator Fields, Representative LaFleur presented Senate Bill No. 434, which provides relative to the reemployment of retirees to meet critical shortage needs.

Representative LaFleur offered amendments to:

1. Make proposed law advertising and posting requirements permanent.
2. Retain the present law requirement that a retiree employed without benefit suspension due to a critical shortage must be certified in the critical shortage area.
3. Relative to employment of retirees without suspension of benefits to fill vacancies created by extended teacher leave, require the retiree to be certified, to have at least 30 years of creditable service, and to be at least 62.
4. Relative to employment of retirees as instructors in certain nursing programs, add a requirement that the retiree retired prior to July 1, 2020.
5. Make proposed law contingent on enactment of Senate Bill No. 377.

Representative LaFleur offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Bacala, Boyd, Emerson, Firment, Freeman, Illg, Ivey, Jefferson, and LaFleur voted yea.

Representative Illg offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 434 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 434 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Bacala, Boyd, Emerson, Firment, Freeman, Illg, Ivey, Jefferson, and LaFleur voted yea.

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

House Resolution No. 136 by Representative Firment

Representative Firment presented House Resolution No. 136, which requests the Firefighters' Retirement System Board of Trustees to review cost-of-living adjustments for system retirees.

Representative Bacala offered amendments to:

1. Add a resolution that the committee meet on the same dates as the system's board of trustees.
2. Add a resolution that the committee's report be submitted to the system's board of trustees.
3. Change the reporting deadline from the beginning of the 2023 Regular Session to December 31, 2022.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Bacala, Emerson, Firment, Illg, Jefferson, and LaFleur voted yea.

Paul Smith, 3214 Max Street, Alexandria, LA, (318) 613-8297, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 136.

Steven Stockstill, Firefighters' Retirement System, 3100 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, 70809, (225) 925-4060, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 136.

David Amrhein, Firefighters' Retirement System, 4700 Main Street, no city or state given, (225) 654-0287, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 136.

Ronny Walker, Firefighters' Retirement System, 600 Oak Park Circle, no city or state given, (318) 251-8621, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 136.

Jerry Tartleton, Firefighters' Retirement System, 14100 Airline Highway, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 235-3507, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 136.

Cecil Perry Jeselink, Firefighters' Retirement System, 2500 Bonita Place, Monroe, LA, (318) 614-7798, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 136.

Greg Curran, actuary, 10555 North Glenstone Place, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 769-4825, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 136.

Steven Procopio, Public Affairs Research Council, 6378 Seven Oaks, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 276-0426, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 136.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 136 with amendments. Without objection, House Resolution No. 136 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Bacala, Emerson, Firment, Freeman, Illg, Ivey, and LaFleur voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 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: 91 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

House Resolution No. 137 by Representative Jordan

House Resolution No. 137 requests the state and statewide retirement systems to invest in companies that practice diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Representative DeVillier offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Resolution No. 137. Without objection, action on House Resolution No. 137 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Bacala, Emerson, Firment, Freeman, Illg, Ivey, and LaFleur voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Illg offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Bacala, Emerson, Firment, Freeman, Illg, Ivey, and LaFleur voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Phillip R. DeVillier
House Committee on Retirement

Date adopted: