The Committee was called to order at 3:00 P.M. by Chairman Long.

On motion of Rep. LeBlanc, the calling of the roll was dispensed with.

**Motion**

On motion of Rep. LeBlanc, the Committee took under consideration House Bill No. 1 at this time.

On motion of Rep. LeBlanc, the Committee, in considering House Bill No. 1, proceeded seriatim.

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1**

**BY REPRESENTATIVE LEBLANC**

AN ACT

Making appropriations for the ordinary expenses of the executive branch of state government, pensions, public schools, public roads, public charities, and state institutions and providing with respect to the expenditure of said appropriations.

Read by title.

Rep. Bowler sent up floor amendments which were read as follows:

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE AMENDMENTS**

Amendments proposed by Representative Jetson, Triche, Baudoin, Bruce, Clarkson, Crane, Deville, Fontenot, Hebert, Holden, Hopkins, Johns, McCallum, Pierre, Pratt, Riddle, Salter, Scalise, Shaw, Jack Smith, Stelly, Thompson, Thornhill, Welch, and Wiggins in the Committee of the Whole House to Engrossed House Bill No. 1 by Representative LeBlanc

**AMENDMENT NO. 1**

On page 5, between lines 23 and 24, insert the following:

"8. C. The commissioner of administration is hereby authorized and directed to reduce the State General Fund (Direct) appropriations contained in the Act for premiums of various state agencies to the office of risk management by the amount of $3,804,089."

**AMENDMENT NO. 2**

On page 94, line 35, change "department's" to "department's most recent"

**AMENDMENT NO. 3**

On page 98, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

EXPENDITURES:

For the administration and monitoring of an additional three hundred and sixty (360) MR/DD waiver slots, including five (5) positions $221,040

TOTAL EXPENDITURES $221,040

MEANS OF FINANCE:

State General Fund (Direct) $110,520

Federal Funds $110,520

TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING $221,040

**AMENDMENT NO. 4**

On page 99, between lines 35 and 36, insert the following:

"EXPENDITURES:

To provide through Payments to Private Providers for an additional three hundred and sixty (360) slots in the MR/DD waiver program, including case management and acute care medical costs $4,988,118

TOTAL EXPENDITURES $4,988,118

MEANS OF FINANCE:

State General Fund (Direct) $1,482,353

Federal Funds $3,505,765

TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING $4,988,118"

**AMENDMENT NO. 5**

On page 108, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

"Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) for 100 Cash Subsidy slots to be phased in over a period of 12 months $173,376

Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) for Family Support flexible services in the Community Mental Health Program $140,000"
AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 116, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

"Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct)
to provide funding for diagnosis and evaluation for seven hundred (700) additional MR/DD waiver slots $140,700

Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) to Community Based Programs for ten (10) regional intake coordinators to process the seven hundred (700) additional MR/DD waiver slots $349,360

Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) to Community Based Programs to increase funding for the Cash Subsidy Program to serve four hundred and thirty-nine (439) additional families through the Community and Family Support System $746,280

Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) to Community Based Programs to contract with Families Helping Families in order to expand services and to pilot a single point of entry/information and referral project in two (2) of the ten (10) OCDD regions $105,000

Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) to Community Based Programs to contract with Families Helping Families to validate the MR/DD Waiver waiting list $350,000

Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) to the Developmental Disabilities Council for the development of a new supported living program for individuals with physical disabilities that occurred after the age of twenty-two (22) $105,000

Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) to the Developmental Disabilities Council to develop a statewide information and support service for the parents of children with severe emotional disturbance $101,500"

Motion

Rep. Landrieu moved the previous question be ordered on the amendments.


By a vote of 44 yeas and 45 nays, the House refused to order the previous question on the amendments.

Motion

Rep. DeWitt moved the previous question be ordered on the amendments.

Rep. Landrieu objected.

By a vote of 54 yeas and 35 nays, the House agreed to order the previous question on the amendments.

Rep. Jetson moved the adoption of the amendments.


A record vote was asked for and ordered by the House.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called with the following result:

YEAS

Alexander, A.—93rd Holden Riddle
Barton Hopkins Salter
Baudoin Iles Schneider
Baylor Jenkins Schwegmann
Bowler Jetson Shaw
Bruce Johns Smith, J.R.-30th
Carter Kennard Stelly
Clarkson Kenney Strain
Crane Lancaster Theriot
Curtis Landrieu Thomas
Damico Long Thompson
Daniel Martiny Thornhill
Diez McCain Toony
Dupre McCormum Triche
Durand McDonald Vitter
Farve Michot Waddell
Faucheux Mitchell Warner
Fontenot Montgomery Weston
Frith Morrell Wiggins
Gautreaux Murray Wilkerson
Glover Perkins Willard
Green Pierre Winston
Guillory Pinac Wright
Heaton Powell
Hill Quezai
Total—73

NAYS

Alario Fruge Travis
Alexander, R.—13th Hammett Walsworth
Bruneau LeBlanc Welch
Copelin McMains Windhorst
Deville Pratt
DeWitt Scalise
Dimos Smith, J.D.—50th
Total—18

ABSENT

Mr. Speaker Hebert
Anserd Hudson Romero
Chaisson Hunter Rousseau
Donelon Marionnaux
Flavin Morrish
Total—13

The amendments were adopted.

Suspension of the Rules

On joint motion of Reps. McDonald and J. R. Smith, and under a suspension of the rules, the above roll call was corrected to reflect them as voting yea.

Rep. Schwegmann sent up floor amendments which were read as follows:
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Representative Schwegmann in the Committee of the Whole House to Engrossed House Bill No. 1 by Representative LeBlanc

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 8, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

"Section 15.C. The commissioner of administration is hereby directed to reduce state general fund appropriations for acquisitions throughout all agencies of state government in an amount not to exceed a total of Four Hundred Thousand ($400,000.00) Dollars."

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 101, between lines 29 and 30, insert the following:

"EXPENDITURES:
To provide through Payments to Private
Providers for an additional two hundred
(200) slots in the adult day health care
waiver program $ 1,346,348

MEANS OF FINANCE:
State General Fund (Direct) $ 400,000
Federal Funds $ 946,348

TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING $ 1,346,348"

On motion of Rep. Schwegmann, the amendments were adopted.

Rep. Shaw sent up floor amendments which were read as follows:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Representative Shaw in the Committee of the Whole House to Engrossed House Bill No. 1 by Representative LeBlanc

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 108, between lines 7 and 8 insert the following:

"Payable out of State General Fund (Direct) for the purchase of atypical psychiatric medications in the Community Mental Health Program $ 2,300,000"

Rep. Shaw moved the adoption of the amendments.


By a vote of 31 yeas and 58 nays, the amendments were rejected.

Rep. Shaw sent up floor amendments which were read as follows:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Representative Shaw in the Committee of the Whole House to Engrossed House Bill No. 1 by Representative LeBlanc

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 8, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

"15.C. The commissioner of administration is hereby directed to reduce state general fund appropriations for acquisitions throughout all agencies of state government in an amount not to exceed a total of Sixty Thousand ($60,000) Dollars."

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 202, after line 53, insert the following:

"Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) for implementation of a tuition payment program for medical school students as provided by R.S. 17:3041.10, et seq. $ 60,000"

On motion of Rep. Shaw, the amendments were adopted.

Rep. Scalise sent up floor amendments which were read as follows:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Representative Scalise in the Committee of the Whole House to Engrossed House Bill No. 1 by Representative LeBlanc

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 258, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

"Provided, however, that inclusive of the funds appropriated herein, no school system shall provide pay increases (excluding step or merit increases) to any school employee other than classroom teachers until the State Superintendent of Education certifies that the average teacher salary in that school system is at least equal to the most current southern average teacher salary as calculated by the Southern Regional Education Board."

Rep. Scalise moved the adoption of the amendments.


By a vote of 19 yeas and 67 nays, the amendments were rejected.

Rep. Barton sent up floor amendments which were read as follows:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Representative Barton in the Committee of the Whole House to Engrossed House Bill No. 1 by Representative LeBlanc

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 257, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

"Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) for the purpose of providing a three percent (3%) increase in the salaries of classroom teachers, through an allocation by the Department of Education to each local school system which does not receive an increase in state Minimum Foundation Program per pupil funding in Fiscal Year 1998-1999 as compared with Fiscal Year 1997-1998 $ 13,600,000"

Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) for the purpose of increasing average salaries for classroom teachers, which funds shall be
distributed by the Department of Education so that each local school system receives an amount approximately equal to 11% of the difference between that entity's average salary for classroom teachers and $34,991 $ 21,400,000

Provided, however, that as used in this Schedule, "classroom teacher" shall mean teachers assigned the professional activities of instructing pupils in courses in classroom situations for which daily pupil attendance figures for the school system are kept."

AMENDMENT NO. 2
On page 257, line 13, change "$2,159,500,998" to "$2,087,703,659"

AMENDMENT NO. 3
On page 257, line 38, change "$2,159,500,998" to "$2,087,703,659"

AMENDMENT NO. 4
On page 257, line 41, change "$2,060,000,998" to "$1,988,203,659"

AMENDMENT NO. 5
On page 257, line 46, change "$2,159,500,998" to "$2,087,703,659"

AMENDMENT NO. 6
On page 258, delete lines 1 through 13 in their entirety

AMENDMENT NO. 7
On page 258, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

"Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) for the continued implementation of the Minimum Foundation Program to be distributed in accordance with the formula; provided, however, that such funds shall be available only for expenditure by each local school system as follows: the first priority for expenditure of these funds shall be to provide for increases in the salaries of classroom teachers to the extent that the average annual salary for such personnel employed by the local school system beginning Fiscal Year 1998-1999 shall be equal to $34,991 per year, or as much of $34,991 as may be accomplished with 100% of expenditures supported by this appropriation; and, thereafter, any remaining funds shall be available for expenditure by each local school system for other lawful purposes. $ 71,797,339

Provided, however, that as used in this Schedule, "classroom teacher" shall mean teachers assigned the professional activities of instructing pupils in courses in classroom situations for which daily pupil attendance figures for the school system are kept."

Rep. Barton moved the adoption of the amendments.


By a vote of 54 yeas and 34 nays, the amendments were adopted.

Rep. Riddle sent up floor amendments which were read as follows: