

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Minutes of Meeting
Regular Session, 2012
March 21, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stephen F. Carter, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m., in Committee Room 1, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
Representative Patrick O. Jefferson, Vice Chairman
Representative Wesley T. Bishop
Representative Christopher Broadwater
Representative Henry L. Burns
Representative Thomas Carmody
Representative Simone Champagne
Representative John Bel Edwards
Representative Cameron Henry
Representative Paul B. Hollis
Representative Edward J. Price
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative John M. Schroder
Representative Robert E. Shadoin
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jeff R. Thompson
Representative Alfred C. Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Nancy Landry

III. STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Jones, Legislative Analyst
Nancy Y. Jolly, Legislative Analyst
Jackie Snowden, Secretary
Beverly Vincent, Sergeant at Arms
Suzie Broussard, Sergeant at Arms

IV. DISCUSSION

House Bill No. 273 by Representative Thompson

House Bill No. 273 provides relative to the membership of the College and Career Readiness Commission.

Representative Thompson presented the bill to the committee. He was accompanied by Ms. Debbie Schum, representing the State Department of Education, 1201 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-3353, debbie.schum@la.gov.

Available to provide information if requested was Ms. Bridget Devlin, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA, bridget.devlin@la.gov.

Representative Thompson moved that House Bill No. 273 be reported favorably. There was no objection, and House Bill No. 273 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, and Thompson voted yea.

House Bill No. 149 by Representative Henry Burns

House Bill No. 149 defines the terms "elementary school", "middle school", and "high school" for purposes of general school law.

Representative Burns presented the bill to the committee.

Presenting information in support of the bill were Ms. Erin Bendily, representing the State Department of Education, Claiborne Bldg., 1201 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA.

Representative Carmody asked that his amendment be presented. He explained that the amendment would add provisions specifying that proposed law is not applicable to nonpublic schools approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Representative Carmody offered the amendment and moved that it be adopted. There was no objection, and the amendment was adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Available to provide information, if requested were Ms. Bridget Devlin, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Claiborne Bldg., Baton

Rouge, LA, bridget.devlin@la.gov; and Ms. Joan E. Hunt, representing the State Department of Education, Claiborne Bldg., 1201 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-3572, joan.hunt@la.gov.

Speaking in opposition to the bill were Ms. Angela Alef, representing The People, LLC, 1520 Prytania St., New Orleans, LA, (504) 450-6112, abalef@yahoo.com; and Mr. Danny Loar, representing Catholic Bishops, 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 344-7120, load3@cox.net.

Representative Henry Burns moved that House Bill No. 149 be reported with amendments. Representative Patricia Smith objected and offered a substitute motion that action on House Bill No. 149 be involuntarily deferred. The secretary called the roll on the substitute motion. The substitute motion failed by a vote of 5 yeas and 12 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Jefferson, Richard, Patricia Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea, and Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay.

The vote then occurred on the original motion by Representative Henry Burns to report House Bill No. 149 with amendments. Representative Patricia Smith objected, and the secretary called the roll. House Bill No. 149 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, and Thompson voted yea, and Representatives Richard, Patricia Smith, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

House Bill No. 108 by Representative Hoffmann

House Bill No. 108 provides relative to the membership of the Louisiana Health Works Commission.

Representative Hoffmann presented the bill to the committee. He was accompanied by Mr. Greg Waddell, representing the Louisiana State Medical Society, 6767 Perkins Road, Suite 100, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 763-8500, greg@lsms.org.

Presenting information and speaking in support of the bill was Ms. Karen Sue Zoeller, representing the Louisiana Hospital Association, 9521 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 928-0026, kzoeller@lhaonline.org.

Also supporting the bill but not wishing to speak was Ms. Jennifer Marusak, representing the Louisiana State Medical Society, 6767 Perkins Road, Suite 100, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 763-8500, jennifer@lsms.org.

Representative Patricia Smith moved that House Bill No. 108 be reported favorably.

There was no objection, and House Bill No. 108 was reported favorably by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Price, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Broadwater moved that House Bill No. 108 be placed on the Local and Consent calendar. There was no objection, and the motion to place House Bill No. 108 on the Local and Consent calendar passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Price, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 98 by Representative Thibaut

House Bill No. 98 authorizes public school boards to name certain school athletic facilities after living persons.

Representative Thibaut presented the bill to the committee.

Supporting the bill but not wishing to speak was Ms. Carolyn Wooten, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191, cwooten@lsba.com.

Representative Carmody moved that House Bill No. 98 be reported favorably. There was no objection, and House Bill No. 98 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Price, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Jefferson in the chair.

House Bill No. 933 by Representative Carter

House Bill No. 933 creates and provides for an early childhood care and education network.

Representative Carter presented the bill to the committee. He was accompanied by Mr. John White, state superintendent of education, representing the State Department of Education, 1201 North 3rd St., Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-0193; and Ms. Ruth Johnson, secretary, Department of Children and Family Services, North 4th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-5573, ruth.johnson@la.gov, who presented information about the bill.

Also presenting information about House Bill No. 933 was Ms. Stafford Palmieri, policy director, Office of Governor Bobby Jindal, 4th Floor, State Capitol, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-7015.

Representative Jefferson announced that Representative Carter had amendments pending. The amendments were presented by Ms. Palmieri and would provide as follows:

- (1) Relative to coordination with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) on aligning licensing standards, changes proposed law to refer to the licensing of child care facilities rather than licensing of day care centers.
- (2) Changes proposed law relative to working cooperatively and collaboratively with DCFS and DHH to establish a coordinated and integrated early childhood educational system regardless of funding source to refer to public funding source.
- (3) Adds provision specifying that proposed law shall not apply to early childhood programs that receive public funds solely for food and nutrition assistance.

Representative Carter offered the amendments and moved that they be adopted. There was no objection, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Williams voted yea.

Representative Jefferson announced that Representative Carter had another set of amendments pending. Ms. Palmieri presented the amendments that would provide as follows:

- (1) Changes proposed law to provide that the state Department of Education shall submit plans and recommendations formulated by the impacted agencies to Louisiana's Early Childhood Advisory Council, the Childcare Association of Louisiana, and the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education's (BESE's) nonpublic school commission for review and comment rather than providing that BESE shall submit the plans to Louisiana's Early Childhood Advisory Council for review and comment.
- (2) Deletes proposed law provision that the advisory council's executive committee shall report its recommendations and comments to BESE for its consideration by not later than Jan. 1, 2013.
- (3) Adds proposed law provision relative to each reviewing entity submitting its comments and recommendations to the state Department of Education which

shall prepare a summary report to be submitted to BESE for its consideration not later than Jan. 1, 2013.

Representative Carter offered the amendments and moved that they be adopted. There was no objection, and the amendments were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Williams voted yea.

Presenting information in support of the bill and responding specifically to questions from Representative Richard were Ms. Pat Crocker, immediate past president of the Child Care Association of Louisiana and chairwoman of the Louisiana Advisory Council on Childhood Education, Brusly, LA 70719, (225) 749-6177, adventurelandfsn@aol.com; and Mr. Alan Young, representing the Child Care Association of Louisiana, 10971 Sanctuary Dr., Shreveport, LA, (318) 656-8181, jalanyoung@msn.com.

Also speaking in support of the bill was Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, 3113 Valley Creek Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388, briggitten@labi.org.

Available to present information in support, if requested, were Ms. Jennifer Ansardi, representing the Jefferson Parish School Board, P. O. Box 55815, Metairie, LA 70055, (504) 606-7702, geglc@cox.net; and Ms. Bridget Devlin, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA, bridget.devlin@la.gov.

Supporting the bill but not wishing to speak were Ms. Mandi Mitchell, representing the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, 804 East St. Mary Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70503, (337) 233-2765; Mr. Barry Erwin, representing the Council for a Better Louisiana, P. O. Box 4308, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 344-2225, erwin@cabl.org; Ms. Camille Conaway, representing BluePrint Louisiana, 9331 Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70890, (225) 926-0893; Mr. John Walters, representing Associated Builders and Contractors, 19251 Highland Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 172-1415; Ms. Cindy Bishop, representing the Child Care Association of Louisiana, (225) 933-5435; Ms. Sandy Michelet, representing the State Department of Education, 13132 S. Braxton Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 266-5016, sandy.michelet@la.gov; Mr. John Warner Smith, representing Education's Next Horizon, 412 North 4th St., Ste. 2400, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 383-3844, jsmith@lanexthorizon.org; Mr. Randy Haynie and Mr. Ryan Haynie, representing BluePrint Louisiana, P. O. Box 44092, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 336-4143; Mr. Jim Harris and Mr. Brad Lambert, representing BluePrint Louisiana, (225) 336-4143; Ms. Ashley Busada, representing the Bossier Chamber of Commerce, 710 Benton Rd., Bossier City, LA 71111, (318) 796-0252; Ms. Erin Monroe Wesley, representing the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, 564 Laurel St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 339-1168,

erin@brac.org; Ms. Veronica Brooks, representing the Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, (225) 301-1759, vbrooks@lacharterschools.org; and Mr. Danny Loar, representing the Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, (225) 344-7120, loard3@cox.net.

Available to provide information in support of the legislation were Mr. Wyatt Graves, representing the Child Care Association of Louisiana, (225) 235-7223, twgraves@gmail.com; and Ms. Jodi Loar, representing Color Wheel Learning Center, 17273 Hwy. 44 and 14429 Hwy. 73, Prairieville, LA and 11637 Sherwood Forest, Baton Rouge, LA, (225)744-4442, jodiloar@hotmail.com.

Speaking in opposition to the bill were Ms. Angela Alef, representing The People, LLC, 1520 Prytania St., New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 450-6112, abalef@yahoo.com; and Ms. Karen Champagne, representing The People, LLC, 1520 Prytania St., New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 450-6112.

Presenting information was Ms. Sandra Adams, representing the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families, 6214 Esplanade, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 923-1701, scadams1@aol.com.

Also available to provide information, if requested, were Mr. Sammy Guillory, representing the Department of Children and Family Services, 627 North 4th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-3450, sammy.guillory@la.gov; Petrouchka Moise, representing Nonpublic Schools Early Childhood Program, Governor's Office of Community Programs, 150 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 342-0425, petrouchka.moise@la.gov; Ms. Gail Kelso, representing the Department of Children and Family Services, 627 North 4th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-0694, gail.kelso@la.gov; Ms. Mary Louise Jones, representing the State Department of Education, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-0576, marylouise.jones@la.gov; Dr. Kerry Laster, representing the State Department of Education, 15547 Memoire Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 767-3585, kerry.laster@la.gov; and Ms. Ivy Starns, representing the State Department of Education, 1201 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 342-0576, ivy.starns@la.gov.

Representative Carter closed on the bill.

Representative Carter moved that House Bill No. 933 be reported with amendments. There was no objection, and House Bill No. 933 was reported with amendments by a vote of 17 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Schroder, Shadoin, Patricia Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business for discussion.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
House Committee on Education