

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2013 Regular Session
May 14, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stephen F. Carter, Chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 8:58 a.m. in 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 Wesley T. Bishop
Representative Chris Broadwater
Representative Henry L. Burns
Representative Thomas G. Carmody, Jr.
Representative Simone B. Champagne
Representative John Bel Edwards
Representative Paul Hollis
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Patrick O. Jefferson, Vice Chairman
Representative Nancy Landry
Representative Edward J. Price
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jeff R. Thompson
Representative Alfred C. Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Cameron Henry
Representative Robert E. Shadoin

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elizabeth L. Borné, Legislative Analyst
Nancy Y. Jolly, Legislative Analyst
Jacqueline Snowden, Secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Beverly Vincent, Sergeant at Arms
Danny Leming, Sergeant at Arms
Keith Bayard, Sergeant at Arms
Susan Broussard, Sergeant at Arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 22 by Senator Long**

Senator Long presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 22, which urges and requests the Louisiana High School Athletic Association to establish and sanction the competitive sport of tournament bass fishing.

Representative Henry Burns offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 22 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Ivey, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Henry Burns offered a motion to place Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 22 on the Local & Consent calendar. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Ivey, Jefferson, Price, Richard, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 204 by Senator Adley

Senator Adley presented Senate Bill No. 204, which provides relative to the issuance of bonds to finance capital improvements for the Louisiana Community and Technical Colleges System.

Accompanying Senator Adley during the presentation of the bill was Dr. Joe May, president, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, 2655 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 922-1643.

Speaking in support of Senate Bill No. 204 were Mr. Lacey Taldano, representing the St. Tammany West Chamber of Commerce (no address given); Mr. Walter Monsour, representing the East Baton Rouge Parish Redevelopment Authority, 801 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 387-5606; Mr. Woody Ogé, board member, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, 833 Legion Dr., Gretna, LA, (504) 392-8706; Mr. Matt McKay, representing All Star Automotive, Baton Rouge, LA; and Mr. Charlie DeWitt, 5706 McArthur Dr., Alexandria, LA, (225) 405-9049.

Providing information only was Mr. James Purcell, commissioner of higher education, representing the Board of Regents, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-4253 and Mr. Bubba Rasberry, representing the Board of Regents, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-4253.

Speaking in opposition to Senate Bill No. 204 was Mr. John Kennedy, Louisiana State Treasurer, 3rd Floor, State Capitol Building, Baton Rouge, LA.

Representative Thompson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 204 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 127 by Senator Gary Smith

Senator Gary Smith presented Senate Bill No. 127, which provides that a student with disabilities who is not pursuing a regular diploma shall not be administered the American College Test with certain exceptions. (gov sig).

Representative Nancy Landry offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 127 that provided as follows:

1. Adds an exception to proposed law allowing a student to take the ACT if his IEP provides for it.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt the amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 127 with amendments. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, and Smith voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 45 by Senator Dorsey-Colomb

Senator Dorsey-Colomb presented Senate Bill No. 45, which merges certain La. Technical College campuses with Baton Rouge Community College.

Dr. Joe May, president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, 265 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 922-1643, was available to provide information if requested.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 45 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Ivey, Price, Richard, and Smith voted yea.

House Bill No. 299 by Representative Carmody

Representative Carmody presented House Bill No. 299, which changes the reporting date for submitting the postsecondary education funding formula to the legislature.

Accompanying Representative Carmody was Dr. James Purcell, commissioner of higher education, representing the Board of Regents, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA (225) 342-4253.

Also supporting the bill but not wishing to speak was Ms. Crystal Allen Dallas, representing the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, 400 Edwards St., Shreveport, LA 71101, (318) 677-2521.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report House Bill No. 299 favorably. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Price, Richard, Smith, and Thompson voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 199 by Senator White

Senator White presented Senate Bill No. 199, which creates and provides for the Southeast Baton Rouge Community School Board and school system in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Accompanying Senator White and presenting information in support of Senate Bill No. 199 was Mr. Norman Browning, representing Local Schools for Local Children, 159 Confederate Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 268-6930.

Presenting information only was Ms. Sheri M. Morris, representing Local Schools for Local Children, 8440 Jefferson Hwy., Suite 301, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 923-2210.

Also speaking in support of House Bill No. 199 were Ms. Sarah E. Fry, a student at Shenandoah Elementary, 5344 Point Clear, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 751-2426; Ms. Lari Fry, a concerned parent, 5344 Point Clear, Baton Rouge, LA 770817, (225) 751-2426; Mr. Henry Grace, representing Local School for Local Children, 5366 Wilderness, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 752-0395; Ms. Kathrin

Mundinger, a concerned teacher, 2250 Oleander St., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (901) 230-0420; Mr. Brian Fletcher, an alumnus of Woodlawn High School, 5331 N. Snowden Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 200-1882; Mr. Jordell McCoy, representing Local Schools for Local Students, 13527 Windy Ridge Ave., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 282-3654; Ms. Patty Cook, representing her children, 16736 Merrimac Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 751-9649; Mr. Trey Cook, representing Local Schools for Local Children, 16736 Merrimac Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 751-9649; Ms. Tonya Jackson, representing Local Schools for Local Students, 7224 Meadow Park, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 276-6628; Ms. Michelle Massey, representing Local Schools for Local Children, 5862 Hickory Ridge, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 485-2500; and Mr. Christopher Gregg, a concerned parent, 16109 Chickemanga Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 755-2242.

Speaking in opposition to Senate Bill No. 199 were Mr. David Tatman, representing the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, 1050 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 767-7640; Dr. Bernard Taylor, superintendent, East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, 1050 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 922-5619; Mr. Domoine Rutledge, representing the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, 1050 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 922-5019; Ms. Tania Nyman, representing One Community One School District, 1278 Aberdeen Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 383-1943; Ms. Laura Fernandez, a concerned parent representing One Community One School District, 12435 Parkrange Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 778-5454; Ms. Leslie M. Defley, 475 Magnolia Wood Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70818, (225) 766-4240; Mr. Tarvald Anthony Smith, representing the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, 1050 S. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 422-5400; Ms. Linda M. Johnson, P. O. Box 866 Plaquemine, LA, (225) 587-2388; Ms. Katelyn Holmes, representing Woodlawn High School, 15740 Ferrell Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 747-0049; Ms. Rachel Dicharry, 4145 Floyd Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 346-1636; Mr. Daniel Davis, a parent of and East Baton Rouge Parish children, 9566 Donna Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815, (225) 201-9307; Mr. Scott Wilfong, representing the Wedgewood Civic Association, 2122 Palmwood Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 272-2525; Ms. Sharon Rosas, an East Baton Rouge Parish parent, 416 Castle Kirk, Baton Rouge, LA 70808; Mr. Ryan Clarke, 14012 Woodland Ridge Ave., 70816, (225) 405-5288; Mr. James Finney, 8121 Oak View Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70814, (225) 252-0412; Ms. Mary Juneau, a parent voter, 13811 N. Oak Hills, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 766-6925; Ms. Belinda Davis, representing One Community One School District, 9666 Donna Dr., Baton Rouge, LA (225) 301-8307; and Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037.

Representative Champagne offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 199 favorably, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll and the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Richard, and Thompson voted yea. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

Senate Bill No. 73 by Senator White

Senator White presented Senate Bill No. 73, which constitutional amendment to grant the Southeast Baton Rouge community school system in East Baton Rouge Parish the same authority granted parishes relative to MFP funding and raising revenue for schools.

Accompanying Senator White and presenting information only was Ms. Sheri M. Morris, representing Local Schools for Local Children, 8440 Jefferson Hwy., Suite 301, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 923-2210.

Speaking in opposition to Senate Bill No. 73 was Dr. Michael Walker-Jones, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators (no address given).

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 73 favorably, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll and the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Richard, and Thompson voted yea. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

House Bill No. 346 by Representative Richard

Representative Richard presented House Bill No. 346, which requires legislative approval of changes made to school performance score ranges.

Presenting information only on House Bill No. 346 were Dr. Gary Jones, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state Department of Education, 3899 Hwy. 457, Alexandria, LA, (318) 563-4433, and Mr. Francis Rouchet, also representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state Department of Education, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 346 were Mr. Russell Armstrong, representing the Governor's Office, State Capitol, Baton Rouge, LA; Ms. Erin Bendily, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state Department of Education, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA; and Ms. Heather Cope, representing the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1201 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-5848.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report House Bill No. 346 favorably, to which Representative Nancy Landry objected. The secretary called the roll and by a vote of 6 yeas and 9 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Price, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, and Nancy Landry voted nay.

Representative Richard offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 346. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
House Committee on Education