

## **House Committee on Education**

Minutes of Meeting  
2014 Regular Session  
April 2, 2014

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Stephen F. Carter, Chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 8:57 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 Patrick O. Jefferson, Vice 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 Cameron Henry  
Representative Paul Hollis  
Representative Barry Ivey  
Representative Nancy Landry  
Representative Edward J. Price  
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds  
Representative Jerome Richard  
Representative Robert E. Shadoin  
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith  
Representative Jeff R. Thompson  
Representative Alfred C. Williams

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Beverly Vincent, Sergeant at Arms

Aaron C. Jackson

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Bill No. 163 by Representative Henry Burns**

Representative Henry Burns presented House Bill No. 163, which prohibits administration of Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments and provides for continuation of Louisiana Educational Assessment Program tests and the standards on which such tests are based.

Representative Carter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 163. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 163 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, and Shadoin voted yea.

**House Bill No. 988 by Representative Schroder**

Representative Schroder presented House Bill No. 988, which permits public school governing authorities to develop and implement curriculum, content, and methodology in lieu of that recommended by the state Department of Education or the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Representative Carter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 988. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 988 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, and Shadoin voted yea.

**House Bill No. 996 by Representative Schroder**

Representative Schroder presented House Bill No. 996, which prohibits implementation of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments and provides for continuation of Louisiana Educational Assessment Program tests.

Representative Carter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 996. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 996 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, and Shadoin voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 1054 by Representative Richard**

Representative Richard presented House Bill No. 1054, which requires teachers in all public schools and in nonpublic schools participating in the voucher program to take the state assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards prior to administering such assessments to students.

Representative Carter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 1054. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 1054 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, and Shadoin voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 381 by Representative Geymann**

Representative Geymann presented House Bill No. 381, which creates the Student Standards Commission to develop state standards for required subjects for public school students.

Representative Geymann presented the bill to the committee and was accompanied by Representative Pope and Mr. Scott Richard, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191.

Representative Richard offered a set of amendments that would provide as follows:

- (1) Authorize school districts to develop their own curriculum, content, and methodology.
- (2) Require the commission to develop standards that are equal to or exceed standards currently in place.
- (3) Make changes to membership on the commission.
- (4) Stipulate that the commission shall meet monthly and report quarterly.
- (5) Outline the process that will be followed to develop the standards.

Representative Richard offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Carmody, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Champagne offered a motion to adopt a two-minute rule for the duration of the meeting. Without objection, a two-minute rule was adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Champagne, Henry, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Smith, and Thompson voted yea.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 381 were Ms. Patrice Pujol, representing the Louisiana Superintendent's Association, 11837 Home Port Dr., Maurepas, LA 70449, (225) 715-4508; Mr. Jerome Puyau, superintendent, Vermilion Parish schools, 220 S. Jefferson St., Abbeville, LA 70533, (337) 898-5766; Mr. Trey Folse, superintendent, St. Tammany Parish schools, 321 N. Beard St., Covington, LA 70433; Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037; Ms. Vicky Johnston, Ouachita Parish School Board, 1207 Tan Tara Circle, Lake Charles, LA, (337) 855-4431; Ms. Deborah Meaux, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 849-3514; Ms. Dominique Magee, representing herself and her children (no address given); Ms. Elizabeth Hill, representing herself, 1323 N. Ridge Rd., Port Allen, LA 70767, (225) 383-8067; Mr. James Crumling, representing Acadiana Patriots, 307 Grand Prairie Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506; Ms. Marla Baldwin, representing Louisiana teachers (Calcasieu Parish), 941 Tara Ave., Lake Charles, LA 70611, (337) 304-0882; Ms. Kathryn Goppelt, 42291 Clouatre Rd., Gonzales, LA, (225) 675-8002; Sister Diane Depue, representing Lake Charles-Beauregard, 1445 Sam Houston Pkwy., (337) 855-1382; Ms. Lee Barrios, representing herself, 178 Abita Oaks Loop, (985) 789-8304; Mr. Ross Little, Jr., 180 Harwell, Lafayette, LA, (337) 981-1749; Ms. Sara Wood, representing herself and her family, 210 Shaunell, Mandeville, LA 70448; Ms. Katy Sirois, representing parents, (985) 264-5591; Mr. V. Louis Goppelt, representing children, 4229 Clouatre, Gonzales, LA, (225) 505-8144; Mr. Ivo Roberts, III, representing Classical Conversations, 428 Sugarpine Dr., Gretna, LA 70056, (504) 957-8551; Ms. Sandy McDade, representing Louisiana Power Coalition and Eagle Forum, 3112 Pines Rd., Shreveport, LA 71119, (318) 458-1410; Ms. Diane Long, representing Louisiana Power Coalition, 1214 Whitehall, Bossier City, LA 71112, (318) 206-1084; and Ms. Debbie Sachs, representing herself and her child, 2320 Jefferson St., (no city given) (985) 626-3595.

The names of persons who signed witness cards to speak in support of House Bill No. 381 but either decided not to speak or were not present when called are contained in Exhibit A.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 381 but did not wish to speak are contained in Exhibit B.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 381 were Mr. John White, state superintendent of education, representing the state Department of Education and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), P. O. Box 94064, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; Mr. Chas Roemer, president, BESE, 6837 Rue Bocage, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-0451; Ms. Holly Boffy, member, BESE (no address given); Mr. Barry Erwin, representing the Council for a Better Louisiana (CABL), P. O. Box 4308, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 344-2225; Ms. Rayne Martin, representing Stand for Children, 872 Moss St., New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 247-6225; Mr. Stephen Waguespack,

representing the Louisiana Association for Business and Industry (LABI), 3113 Valley Creek Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388; Mr. Eddie Rispone, representing ISC Constructors, LLC, 20480 Highland Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 756-8001; Mr. Lane Grigsby, representing Cajun Industries, LLC, P. O. Box 104, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 933-4886; Mr. Ken Miller, representing Exxon Mobil, 4999 Scenic Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 997-1977; Mr. John F. Jones, representing CenturyLink, Monroe, LA, (318) 362-1583; Dr. Phillip Rozeman, representing Blueprint Louisiana and Louisiana Committee of 100, 510 Longleaf Rd., Shreveport, LA 71106, (318) 861-7051; Mr. James West, representing the Jefferson Parish School System, 501 Manhattan, Harvey, LA, (504) 345-7002; Ms. Lauren Trahan, representing herself, 211 Cricklade Ct., Youngsville, LA 70592; Ms. Amy Deslattes, representing herself, 103 Robin Dale Dr., Youngsville, LA 70592, (985) 519-5222; Ms. Phyllis Taylor, Taylor Energy, New Orleans, LA; Ms. Judith Vail, representing herself, 3501 South Ferry Rd., Westlake, LA 70669, (337) 540-0755; Mr. Fredman Hardy, representing himself, 2824 Donateil, Lake Charles, LA, (337) 433-6988; Mr. Mickey Landry, representing the Choice Foundation, 2727 S. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 286-2398; Ms. Sarah Usdin, representing the Orleans Parish School Board, 3034 Ursulines Ave., New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 485-0080; Mr. Pat Cooper, superintendent of schools, Lafayette Parish, Lafayette, LA 70528, (337) 521-7014; Ms. Penny Gennuso, representing the Lafayette Parish school system, 219 Elenc Dr., Scott, LA 70583, (337) 521-7118; Ms. Stephanie Desselle, representing CABL, 251 Florida Blvd., Suite 400, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 344-2225; and Ms. Angela Alef, representing The People, 1500 Prytania, New Orleans, LA 70115, (504) 427-3799.

Providing information were Mr. Bob Levy, representing the state Board of Regents, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-4253; Mr. Tom Layzell, representing the Board of Regents, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-4253; and Ms. Jeanne Burns, representing the Board of Regents, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-4253. Also available to provide information were Dr. Gary Jones, representing the state Department of Education, 3899 Hwy. 457, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 308-2306; Mr. Francis Touchet, representing the state Department of Education (no address given); Mr. Warren Drake, representing the state Department of Education, 1201 N. 3rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 247-9633; and Dr. Joseph Savoie, president, the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, Lafayette, LA.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 381 were Ms. Veronica Brooks, representing the Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, 1555 Poydras St., Suite 750, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 274-3652; Ms. Emily Buttitta, student, West Monroe High School, 149 Nan Creek Rd., West Monroe, LA 71291, (318) 537-9040; Ms. Margo Phelps, representing Citizens for One Greater New Orleans, 7416 Valmont St., New Orleans, LA 70115, (504) 899-4793; Ms. Stephanie Washington, student, Louisiana New School Academy, North Kildeer St. (no city given), (225) 407-2126; Mr. Eric Lewis, representing the Black Alliance for Education Options (BAEO), 7875 Jefferson Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 408-9323; Mr. Jay Altman, representing Firstline Schools, 4920 Camp St., New Orleans, LA 70115, (504) 228-5491; Ms. Stephanie Beard, representing her children; 76450 Hwy. 1082, Covington, LA 70435, (985) 804-1442; Ms. Desiree' Harvy, representing herself, 106 Tallowood Dr., Lafayette, LA 70508, (337) 534-6472; Ms. Amy Lemoine,

representing herself, N. Dugas Rd., Lafayette, LA, (371) 371-3444; Ms. Alven Cole, representing herself, 3300 Garden Oaks Dr., (504) 300-4879; Ms. Kimya Cole, representing herself, 3300 Garden Oaks Dr. (no city given), #57, New Orleans, LA 70114, (504) 300-5024; Ms. Jasnon Paula Butler, representing herself, 1701 New Orleans St., New Orleans, LA 70116, (504) 931-9397; Ms. Sada Jones, representing herself, 11937 Curnan Rd., (504) 341-5735; Ms. Tricia Miller, representing Calcasieu Parish public schools, 600 S. Shattuck St., Lake Charles, LA, (337) 515-2595; Mr. Kevin R. George, superintendent, St. John the Baptist schools, 118 W. 10th St., Reserve, LA, (985) 212-7004; Ms. Kaycee Eckhardt, representing herself, 326 Vallette St., New Orleans, LA 70114, (504) 344-3638; Mr. Andrew Shahan, 3820 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA, (504) 520-5245; Ms. Keisha Fleming, representing Stand for Children, 58650 Iron Farm Rd, Plaquemine, LA, (225) 689-2217; Mr. Ryan Booth, 12901 Jefferson Hwy., Apt 234, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 803-2062; Mr. Jonathan Bertsch, representing KIPP schools, 3514 3rd St., New Orleans, LA 70113, (504) 905-7311; Mr. Adrian Morgan, representing Algiers Charter Schools Association, 3240 General DeGaulle, New Orleans, LA 70114; and Ms. Kate Mehok, representing Crescent City schools, 3811 N. Galvez St., New Orleans, LA 70117, (504) 451-7330.

Witness cards of persons in opposition to House Bill No. 381 who decided not to speak or were not present when called are contained in Exhibit C.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in opposition to House Bill No. 381 but did not wish to speak are contained in Exhibit D.

Representative Henry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 381 with amendments, to which Representative Carmody objected. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 7 yeas and 12 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Henry Burns, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Richard, and Shadoin voted yea. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Champagne, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

Representative Price offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 381. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 381 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 558 by Representative Henry**

Representative Henry presented House Bill No. 558, which prohibits administration of Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments and provides for continuation of Louisiana Educational Assessment Program tests and the standards on which such tests are based.

Representative Henry presented the bill to the committee. He was accompanied Mr. Jerome Puyau, superintendent of Vermilion Parish schools, 220 S. Jefferson St., Abbeville, LA 70510, (337) 898-5764; and Mr. Scott Richard, executive director, Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809.

Representative Henry offered a set of amendments which provide that the provisions of the bill would not apply to college entrance tests, the high school equivalency exam, or an industry-based certification exam. Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Representative Henry offered another set of amendments that would:

- (1) Add language allowing the state Department of Education to implement a pilot program for two years to administer the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers.
- (2) Require the state Department of Education in 2016 to report to the legislature the status of the implementation of the pilot.
- (3) Provide that statewide implementation is subject to approval by the legislature through concurrent resolution by majority vote of both chambers.

Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. At the request of several committee members, Representative Henry agreed to withdraw the amendments to allow testimony from Superintendent White. The motion to adopt the amendments was withdrawn and no vote was taken.

After Superintendent White discussed the amendments and answered questions from committee members, Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the amendments, which were revised as follows:

- (1) Add language allowing the state Department of Education with the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years to field test the assessments proposed or developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers.
- (2) Require the state Department of Education to submit a report to the legislature not later than May 1, 2016, on the status of the implementation of the field test, including the department's recommendation as to whether the assessments should be implemented statewide.

Representative Henry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Carter objected. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 5 yeas and 12 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Henry Burns, Edwards, Henry, Ivey, and Shadoin voted yea. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Champagne, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 588 were Mr. Michael Deshotels, representing himself, 22505 Fairway View, Zachary, LA, (225) 235-1632; Ms. Lee Barrios, representing herself, 178 Abita Oaks Loop, Abita Springs, LA (915) 789-8904; Ms. Vicky Johnston, 1207 Tan Tara Circle, Lake Charles, LA, (337) 855-4431; Ms. Elizabeth Hill, representing herself, 1323 N. River Rd., Port Allen, LA 70767, (225) 383-8067; Ms. Kathryn Goppelt, 42291 Clouatre, Rd.; Ms. Beth Appleton, representing herself, 17556 Shady Elm Ave. (no city given), 256-5869; Ms. Liz Gary, representing Dustin Gary and students with disabilities, 2154 West Ridge Dr., Mandeville, LA 70448, (985) 674-1783; Ms. Amy Lemoine, representing herself, 1216 N. Dugas Rd., Lafayette, LA, (337) 371-5444; Ms. Kathy Sirois, 310 Platter Dr., Thibodaux, LA 70301, (985) 264-5591; Ms. Stephanie Beard, representing her children, 76450 Hwy. 1082, Covington, LA 70435, (985) 809-1442; Ms. Sara Wood, representing her family, 210 Shaunell, Mandeville, LA 70448; and Ms. Debbie Sachs, representing herself and her children, 2320 Jefferson St. (no city given), (985) 626-3595.

The names of persons who signed witness cards to speak in support of House Bill No. 588 but either decided not to speak or were not present when called are contained in Exhibit E.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 588 but did not wish to speak are contained in Exhibit F.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 588 were Ms. Jeanne Burns, representing the state Board of Regents, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-4253; Dr. Phillip Rozeman, representing Blueprint Louisiana and the Committee of 100, 510 Longleaf Rd., Shreveport, LA 71106, (318) 861-7051; Ms. Stephanie Desselle, representing CABL, 251 Florida, Suite 440, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 344-2225; Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing LABI, 3113 Valley Creek Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388; and Mr. John Warner Smith, representing Education's Next Horizon, 412 4th St., Ste. 240, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 383-3844.

The names persons who signed witness cards to speak in opposition to House Bill No. 588 but either decided not to speak or were not present when called are contained in Exhibit G.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 588 but did not wish to speak are contained in Exhibit H.

Representative Henry closed on the legislation.



Representative Henry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 558 with amendments, to which Representative Price objected. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 7 yeas and 12 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Henry Burns, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Richard, and Shadoin voted yea. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Champagne, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

Representative Price offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 558. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 558 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 19 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Representative Carter reminded members that House Education would meet Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman  
House Committee on Education