

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2014 Regular Session
April 3, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stephen F. Carter, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 11:18 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 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 Jeff R. Thompson
Representative Alfred C. Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Thomas G. Carmody, Jr.
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Aaron Jackson, Sergeant at Arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 795 by Representative Barras**

Representative Barras presented House Bill No. 795, which provides relative to the model age and use of school buses.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 795 that, relative to the prohibition on using school buses that are 15 model years or older, changes "60 consecutive days" to "60 consecutive school days."

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Shadoin, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Supporting the bill but not wishing to speak was Mr. Dannie P. Garrett, III, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 263 Third St., Ste. 707, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report House Bill No. 795 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 795 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 542 by Representative Willmott

Representative Willmott presented House Bill No. 542, which requires instruction relative to CPR and automated external defibrillators to be integrated into the curriculum of an existing required course of study in public high schools.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 542 were Ms. Stasha M. Rhodes, representing the American Heart Association, 2644 Sherwood Forest Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA, (985) 414-9743; and Mr. Chad Major, representing professional firefighters, (no address given), Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 572-8483.

Representative Carter offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 542 that would provide as follows:

1. Specifies that the existing course into which instruction shall be integrated shall be one that is required for graduation.
2. Exempts students receiving the instruction in a virtual school from performing hands-on training.
3. Relative to those with whom school governing authorities may partner to provide instruction, provides as follows:
 - (a) Adds athletic trainers, nurse practitioners, and any person included in the present law definition of "health care provider".
 - (b) Requires instructors to be certified in CPR.
 - (c) Adds that they may apply instruction to professional community service requirements, if applicable.
4. Instead of requiring the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to establish a procedure to monitor the compliance of public school governing authorities with proposed law, requires such governing authorities to comply with any surveys or reporting that BESE or the state Dept. of Education requires in order to determine whether they are complying with proposed law.

Representative Carter offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 542 but did not wish to speak are contained in Exhibit A.

The names of persons who were available to provide information on House Bill No. 542 are contained in Exhibit B.

Representative Richard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 542 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 542 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 763 by Representative Ortego

Representative Ortego presented House Bill No. 763, which provides relative to foreign language immersion programs in public schools.

Also making opening remarks in support of the bill were Representative Gisclair and Dr. Bill Arceneaux, representing the Council for the Development of the French Language in Louisiana, (225) 767-4449.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 763 that adds the following conditions on the proposed law prohibition on denial of enrollment:

- a. Sufficient minimum foundation program formula funds to pay salary supplements.
- b. Sufficient number of teachers with proper credentials.
- c. Proficiency or transfer student requirements applicable to students entering the second grade or above.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Also speaking in support of House Bill No. 763 were Ms. Ashley Thom Lecky, 406 N. Sterling St., (337) 781-1353; Ms. Caroline Ancelet, representing herself, 151 rue des Babineaux, Scott, LA 70583, (337) 896-5109; Mr. Barry Ancelet, representing himself, 151 rue des Babineaux, Scott, LA, (337) 207-1512; and Ms. Nicole LeBlanc, 418 St. Patrick St., Lafayette, LA 70506, (337) 322-8508.

In support of the bill but not wishing to speak were Ms. Brigitte Nieland, representing the Louisiana Association for Business and Industry, 3113 Valley Creek, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 928-5388; Mr. Jacob Boudreaux, 149 Versailles Dr., Houma, LA 70360, (985) 791-1668; and Ms. Connie Chapman, 1203 Jeanne, Lafayette, LA 70806, (225) 252-6666.

Available to provide information, if requested, was Ms. Nicole Boudreaux, representing the Louisiana Consortium of Immersion Schools, 1057 Dudley Menard Rd., Broussard, LA 70518, (337) 521-7127.

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 763 was Mr. Dannie P. Garrett, III, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 263 Third St., Ste. 707, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 763 with amendments, to which Representative Price objected. A roll call vote was taken and House Bill No. 763 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Reynolds, and Richard voted yea. Representatives Jefferson, Price, Shadoin, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

House Bill No. 997 by Representative Hunter

Representative Hunter presented House Bill No. 997, which places certain residency and program of study requirements on Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) award recipients and authorizes use of TOPS awards for postgraduate study in certain circumstances.

Providing information on House Bill No. 997 were Dr. Sujuan Boutté, executive director, Office of Student Financial Assistance, 602 North 5th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-7295; and Mr. George Eldredge, general counsel, Office of Student Financial Assistance, 602 North 5th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-7668.

Providing information in opposition to House Bill No. 997 was Dr. James Caillier, representing Entergy Enterprises, New Orleans, LA 70130, (337) 288-4441.

On behalf of Representative Hunter, Representative Carter moved that action on House Bill No. 997 be voluntarily deferred. There was no objection the motion passed by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Broadwater, Burns, Carter Champagne, Edwards, Henry, Ivey, Jefferson, Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, Thompson, and Williams voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
House Committee on Education