

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2014 Regular Session
May 13, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stephen F. Carter, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:07 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 Paul Hollis
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Nancy Landry
Representative Edward J. Price
Representative Robert E. Shadoin
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jeff R. Thompson
Representative Alfred C. Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Cameron Henry
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds
Representative Jerome Richard

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Beverly Vincent, Sergeant at Arms
Riley Thomas, Sergeant at Arms
Danielle Broussard, Clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Concurrent Resolution No. 134 by Representative Leger**

Representative Leger presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 134, which creates the Medical Education & Research Finance Work Group to provide findings and recommendations to the legislature relative to a formula-based financing model for the funding of Louisiana's public institutions for graduate and professional medical education and biomedical and health-related research.

Representative Carter offered a set of amendments to House Concurrent Resolution No. 134 that would remove the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate from the membership of the work group.

Representative Carter 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, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Persons who signed witness cards in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 134 and to provide information if requested, but did not wish to speak, are included in Exhibit A.

Representative Carmody offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 134 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 134 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Price, and Smith voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 636 by Senator White

Senator White presented Senate Bill No. 636, which provides relative to the organization and management of large school systems.

Representative Champagne offered a motion to adopt the two-minute rule for Senate Bill No. 636. Without objection, the motion to adopt the two-minute rule for Senate Bill No. 636 passed

by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Price, Shadoin, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Speaking in support of Senate Bill No. 636 were Mr. Sid Gautreaux, East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office, 100 St. Ferdinand St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 301-3291; Baton Rouge District Attorney Hillar Moore, 222 St. Louis St., Baton Rouge, LA, 70821, (225) 939-7012; Ms. Amanda Wells, 119 Towering Oaks Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 769-9827; and Mr. Chandler Loupe, member, East Baton Rouge Metro Council, 734 Plantation, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 766-6419.

Speaking in opposition to Senate Bill No. 636 were Mr. Evan Alvarez, East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Ste. 600, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 923-3462; Mr. Domoine D. Rutledge, general counsel, East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 1050 South Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 922-5619; Ms. Nadine L. Mann, director, food services and nutrition, East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 1050 South Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 226-3606; Dr. Jim Richardson, Louisiana State University economist, LSU-Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA; Ms. Catherine Fletcher, East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 1050 South Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 922-5650; Mr. James Crochet, East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 1050 South Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 922-5679; and Mr. Gary J. Reese, director of transportation, East Baton Rouge Parish school system, 1050 South Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 226-3720.

Also testifying in opposition to Senate Bill No. 636 were Ms. Andra Taplin (no address given), (225) 202-5778; Mr. Jeff Sanford, representing children and principals, 8550 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70895, (225) 761-9600; Pastor Gerard Robinson, representing the community (no address given), (225) 773-4545; Dr. Albert Samuels, representing his children, 11248 Grencrest Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70811, (225) 771-4541; Mr. Dannie P. Garrett, III, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 263 Third St., Ste. 707, (225) 382-0333; Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037; Ms. Lara Gautreau, representing her children, 10615 Danbury Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 223-9451; Ms. Mary Juneau, representing herself, 12811 N. Oak Hills Parkway, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 706-6925; Mr. Noel Hammatt, 242 Delgado Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 938-3832; Ms. Tania Nyman, representing One Community One School District, 1278 Aberdeen Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 383-1943; Ms. Patrice Pujol, superintendent, Ascension Parish school board, representing the Superintendent's Association, P. O. Box 189, Donaldsonville, LA 70346, (225) 715-4588; Mr. Scott Richard, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191; Ms. Deborah Meaux, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators, 8322 One Calais, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 849-3514; Mr. Barry Meyer, representing The Arc Baton Rouge, 8376 Kenwood, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 927-0855; Ms. Belinda Davis, representing One Community One School District, 9566 Donne Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815, (225) 202-2608; and State Representative Patricia Smith, Baton Rouge, LA.

Persons who signed witness cards in support of Senate Bill No. 636 and to provide information if requested, but did not wish to speak, are included in Exhibit A.

Persons who signed witness cards in opposition to Senate Bill No. 636 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit B.

Representative Carter offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 636 favorably, to which Representative Alfred Williams objected.

Representative Smith offered a substitute motion to involuntarily defer action on Senate Bill No. 636, to which Representative Carter objected. A roll call vote was taken on the substitute motion and by a vote of 6 yeas and 10 nays, the motion failed to pass. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Shadoin, and Thompson voted nay.

Representative Carter offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 636 favorably, to which Representative Alfred Williams objected. A roll call vote was taken and Senate Bill No. 636 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Shadoin, and Thompson voted yea. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Edwards, Jefferson, Price, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted nay.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83 by Senator Nevers

Senator Nevers presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83, which requests the management boards of Louisiana's public colleges and universities consider including in certain schools disciplines and degree programs, suicide assessment, and prevention training that meet the Suicide Prevention Resource Center best practices standards.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of Senate Bill No. 83 are included in Exhibit A.

Representative Carmody offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 61 by Senator Nevers

Senator Nevers presented Senate Bill No. 61, which provides for the Louisiana Public School Choice Act.

Representative Thompson offered a set of amendments to Senate Bill No. 61 that adds language as follows:

On page 2, line 10: "such enrollment is approved
by a vote of a majority of the members of the local
school board for the school."

Representative Thompson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Testifying in opposition to Senate Bill No. 61 were Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809; Ms. Patrice Pujol, superintendent, Ascension Parish school board, representing the Superintendent's Association, P. O. Box 189, Donaldsonville, LA 70346, (225) 715-4588; Mr. Scott Richard, representing the Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191; and Mr. Jim Melohn, representing the St. Charles Parish school board, 13854 River Road, Luling, LA 70070, (504) 416-6198.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 61 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 61 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 126 by Senator Nevers

Senator Nevers presented Senate Bill No. 126, which provides relative to TOPS.

Speaking in support of Senate Bill No. 126 was Ms. Stephanie Desselle, representing the Council for a Better Louisiana (CABL), P. O. Box 4308, Baton Rouge, LA, 70810, (225) 344-2225.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of Senate Bill No. 126 are included in Exhibit A.

Representative Price offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 126 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 126 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 393 by Representative Smith

Representative Smith presented House Bill No. 393, which authorizes a Dept. of Education survey of students regarding risk behaviors.

Supporting the bill was Ms. Patricia Kissinger, 74 Nern Place, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 988-7320.

Opposing the bill was Ms. Sandy McDade, representing LPC, 3112 Pines Rd., Shreveport, LA, (318) 428-1410.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 393 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit A.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in opposition to House Bill No. 383 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit B.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report House Bill No. 393 favorably, to which Representative Ivey objected. A roll call vote was taken and House Bill No. 393 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 6 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Jefferson, Price, Smith, and Alfred Williams voted yea. Representatives Henry Burns, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, and Thompson voted nay.

House Bill No. 1068 by Representative Smith

Representative Smith presented House Bill No. 1068, which requires certain state agencies to meet biannually to discuss and make recommendations in an effort to reduce teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in support of House Bill No. 1068 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit A.

The names of persons who signed witness cards in opposition to House Bill No. 1068 but did not wish to speak are included in Exhibit B.

Representative Thompson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1068 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1068 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

House Bill No. 369 by Representative Smith

Representative Smith presented House Bill No. 369, which provides relative to sex education instruction in public schools.

Representative Smith offered a set of amendments to House Bill No. 369 that would restrict appropriate sex education instruction to students in grades four through twelve.

Representative Smith 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, Champagne, Hollis, Ivey, Nancy Landry, Smith, Thompson, and Alfred Williams voted yea.

Supporting the bill were Ms. Patricia Kissinger, 74 Nern Place, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 988-7320; Ms. Angelita A. Brown, 6047 Dover Place, New Orleans, LA, (504) 982-5111; Ms. Katya Reyna, representing Know More Louisiana, (708) 819-1012; Mr. Ryan H. Pasternak, MD, MPA, representing pediatrics, 3042 Ursuline Ave., New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 919-9640; Ms. Sophia Stevenson, representing Know More Louisiana, 2115 Audubon St., New Orleans, LA 70118, (850) 737-0428; Ms. Autumn-Fern Gandolfi, 1538 Dante, New Orleans, LA, (504) 756-7587; and Mr. Darrius Hughes, representing Proper Protocol Consulting, LLC, 6208 Beechwood Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70805, (225) 246-7154.

Representative Smith offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 369. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 369 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Carter, Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Champagne, Edwards, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Shadoin, Smith, Thompson, 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 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
House Committee on Education