

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2015 Regular Session
May 13, 2015

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 Patrick O. Jefferson, Vice Chairman
Representative Wesley T. Bishop
Representative Chris Broadwater
Representative Henry L. Burns
Representative Thomas G. Carmody, Jr.
Representative John Bel Edwards
Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall
Representative Cameron Henry
Representative Paul Hollis
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Nancy Landry
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Edward J. Price
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative Robert E. Shadoin
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Beverly Vincent, Sergeant at Arms
Janet Anthony, Sergeant at Arms
Karli Roussell, Clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 599 by Representative Thierry**

Representative Thierry presented House Bill No. 599, which extends the implementation timeline for the early childhood care and education network.

The following persons spoke in support of House Bill No. 599:

Ms. Melanie Bronfin, representing the Policy Institute for Children (address not legible), (504) 228-0988.

Mr. John Warner Smith, representing Education's Next Horizon, 413 North 4th St., Ste. 104A, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 383-3814.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 21 in support and three in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Carter offered amendments to House Bill No. 599 that provided for a substitute to the original House Bill No. 599. Representative Carter offered a motion to adopt the substitute. Without objection, the substitute was adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Leger, Price, Reynolds, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Smith offered a motion to report House Bill No. 599 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 599 was reported by substitute by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Leger, Price, Reynolds, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea.

House Bill No. 672 by Representative Harris

Representative Harris presented House Bill No. 672, which provides relative to the development, review, and adoption of state content standards and related assessments for public school students.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 672. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 672 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 18 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Leger, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea.

(Vice Chairman Jefferson in the chair.)

House Bill No. 373 by Representative Geymann

Representative Geymann presented House Bill No. 373, which provides for the implementation of state content standards for public school students subject to legislative approval.

Accompanying Representative Geymann in presenting the bill were the following persons:

Chairman Steve Carter.

Representative John Schroder.

Senator Conrad Appel, 3832 Edenboro Ave., (504) 439-2920.

Ms. Stafford Palmieri, representing the Governor's Office, 4th Floor, State Capitol, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-7015.

Representative Broadwater offered amendments to House Bill No. 373 that would provide as follows:

1. Require the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to develop the state content standards instead of the department with BESE approval.
2. Add provisions for the review, development and implementation of state content standards in English language arts and math by BESE including requirements for meetings, rules, submission of minutes, and the posting and adoption of the standards. Also add requirement that the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate each appoint a liaison to attend the meetings.
3. Add provisions relative to the suspension or veto of the standards by the governor.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Hall, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Leger, Price, Richard, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Price offered a motion to adopt a three-minute rule for witness testimony. Without objection, the motion to adopt a three-minute rule passed by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Hall, Henry, Hollis, Ivey, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Leger, Price, Richard, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea.

Speaking in support of House Bill No. 373 were the following persons:

Ms. Candyce Watsey, 129 B Country Club Dr., Covington, LA 70433, (985) 264-9741.

Dr. Elizabeth Meyers, 909 Sharon St., Denham Springs, LA 70726, (225) 963-1711.

Dr. Phillip Rozeman, representing Blueprint Louisiana, Committee of 100, Shreveport, LA, (318) 426-7401.

Ms. Kathryn Goppelt, 42291 Clouatre Rd., Gonzales, LA, (225) 241-9485.

Ms. Marla Baldwin, 941 Tara Ave., Lake Charles, LA 70611, (337) 304-0882.

Ms. Dominique Magee, 759 Solomon Dr., Covington, LA 70433, (504) 355-6647.

Ms. Theresa Robert, 2205 Hwy. 44, Gonzales, LA, (225) 215-6060.

Ms. Terri Timmcke, 26 Chateau Palmer Dr., Kenner, LA 70065, (504) 467-0414.

Ms. Sandy McDade, representing Louisiana Power Coalition, 3162 Pines Rd., Shreveport, LA, (318) 458-1810.

Mr. Dennis Burke, 6525 Gladys St., Metairie, LA (504) 460-8302.

Ms. Sara Wood, 210 Shaunell (no other information provided).

Speaking in opposition to House Bill No. 373 were the following persons:

Ms. Brenda Nixon, representing LSU Cain Center for STEM Literacy, 18255 Frenchtown Acres, Greenwell Springs, LA 70739, (225) 261-8299.

Ms. Kristen Orndoff, 7117 Inverness Dr., Lake Charles, LA 70605, (337) 515-8304.

Ms. Tammy Schales, 159 East Ridge Terrace, Ruston, LA 71270, (318) 255-0673.

Ms. Nicole Nelson, P. O. Box 37532, Shreveport, LA 71133, (318) 505-4357.

Ms. Erica Payton, 4115 Inwood Rd., Shreveport, LA 71119, (318) 228-7031.

Ms. Stephanie Beard, 76450 Highway 1082, Covington, LA, (985) 809-1442.

Ms. Beth Appleton, 17556 Shady Elm, Baton Rouge, LA, 70816.

Ms. Debbie Sachs, 2320 Jefferson St., Mandeville, LA.

Ms. Erin Comeaux, representing Stand for Children, 3297 Castle Dr., Kenner, LA 70065, (504) 201-1992.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 27 in support and 70 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report House Bill No. 373 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 373 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Broadwater, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Henry, Hollis, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Leger, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea.

(Chairman Carter in the chair.)

House Concurrent Resolution No. 18 by Representative Carter

Representative Carter presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 18, which provides for legislative approval of the MFP formula for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Mr. Chas Roemer, president, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), 6637 Rue Bocage, Baton Rouge, LA 70829, (225) 200-1600, presented highlights of the bill.

Ms. Beth Scioneaux, deputy superintendent for finance, representing the state Department of Education and BESE, 5th Floor, Claiborne Bldg., (225) 342-3617, provided information.

Speaking in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 18 were the following persons:

Ms. Deborah Meaux, representing the Louisiana Association of Educators (LAE), 8322 One Calais Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 849-3514.

Mr. Steve Monaghan, representing the Louisiana Federation of Teachers (LFT), 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037.

Mr. Scott Richard, executive director, Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 769-3191.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 52 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Price offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 18 favorably, with a recommendation to recommit to the Committee on Appropriations. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 18 was reported with a recommendation to recommit to the Committee on Appropriations favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Carmody, Carter, Jefferson, Nancy Landry, Price, Reynolds, Richard, Shadoin, and Smith voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Before legislation was discussed, representatives of the Louisiana School Boards Association provided members with a video presentation on the winners of the "Louisiana Believes in Public Schools" contest from the St. Tammany and St. Martin parish school boards.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman
House Committee on Education