

## **House Committee on Education**

Minutes of Meeting  
2015 Regular Session  
June 2, 2015

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

Representative Stephen F. Carter, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:03 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 Edward J. Price  
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds  
Representative Jerome Richard  
Representative Robert E. Shadoin  
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Cameron Henry  
Representative Paul Hollis  
Representative Barry Ivey  
Representative Nancy Landry  
Representative Walt Leger, III

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

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

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Beverly Vincent, Sergeant at Arms

Linda Robillard, Sergeant at Arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Concurrent Resolution No. 174 by Representative Moreno**

Representative Moreno presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 174, which requests that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education identify funding sources for early childhood care and education and submit a report relative to the implementation of its funding model for early childhood care and education.

Speaking in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 174 were:

Ms. Melanie Bronfin, representing Policy Institute for Children, 426 Attherton Dr., Metairie, LA 70005, (504) 228-0988.

Mr. John Warner Smith, representing Education's Next Horizon, 472 North 4<sup>th</sup> St., Ste. 104A, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 383-3841.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 12 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Price offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 174 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 174 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Jefferson, Price, Reynolds, and Shadoin voted yea.

**Senate Bill No. 58 by Senator Appel**

Senator Appel presented Senate Bill No. 58, which provides relative to the Deaf Child's Bill of Rights.

Information on the bill was presented by Ms. Erin Bendily, representing the state Department of Education and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), Claiborne Building, 1201 North 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Baton Rouge, LA..

Testifying in support of Senate Bill No. 58 were:

Ms. Rana I. Ottallah, 3713 Brandywine Dr., Metairie, LA, (504) 214-0113.

Ms. Nicole Deleon, 7900 Baneu Dr., Harahan, LA 70123, (504) 305-0534.

Ms. Melodie Sparks, representing I-LEEAD, 42437 Hwy. 93, Gonzales, LA 70737, (225) 603-0806.

Ms. Laura Gresham, representing Deaf Education Alliance, 4332 Rhoda Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70737, (225) 810-9853.

Mr. Paul Winfree, 11959 Nicholson Dr., Apt. 4102, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 372-4994, whose testimony was relayed to the audience by an interpreter, Mr. Nicky Gillies, ASL Interpreter, 2822 Bell St., New Orleans, LA 70119.

Ms. Paula Rodriguez, representing Deaf Focus Services, 4332 Rhoda Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70237, whose testimony was relayed to the audience by an interpreter, Mr. Nicky Gillies, ASL Interpreter, 2822 Bell St., New Orleans, LA 70119.

Ms. Beth Forester, 1132 Springlake Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 465-9324.

Ms. Natalie Delgado, 14071 Eastridge Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70812, (225) 570-1592.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 58 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 58 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Jefferson, Price, Reynolds, Richard, and Shadoin voted yea.

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 201 by Representative Ourso**

Representative Ourso presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 201, which creates a task force to study the feasibility of establishing independent school districts in Louisiana.

Presenting information was Ms. Erin Bendily, representing the state Department of Education and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), Claiborne Building, 1201 North 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Baton Rouge, LA.

Representative Broadwater offered amendments to House Concurrent Resolution No. 201 that would add that the task force shall submit a preliminary written report on the status of the study proceedings by March 1, 2016, and provide for a final written report prior to the 2017 R.S. instead of the 2016

R.S. Representative Broadwater offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Jefferson, Price, Reynolds, and Shadoin voted yea.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 201 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 201 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Jefferson, Price, Reynolds, and Shadoin voted yea.

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 182 by Representative Wesley Bishop**

Representative Wesley Bishop presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 182, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study the establishment of a student resource center for students in approved home study programs and the use of surplus space in state-owned immovable property for such programs.

Ms. Amy Dutsch, 423 Queen Anne Dr., Slidell, LA 70468, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 182 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 182 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Price, Reynolds, and Shadoin voted yea.

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 200 by Representative Wesley Bishop**

Representative Wesley Bishop presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 200, which requests the Board of Regents to review and consider revising its master plan relative to the plan's goal of increasing postsecondary educational attainment.

Dr. Joe Rallo, state commissioner of higher education, Claiborne Bldg., 1201 North 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-4253, provided information on the resolution.

Representative Wesley Bishop offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 200 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 200 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Wesley Bishop, Broadwater, Henry Burns, Carmody, Carter, Edwards, Hall, Jefferson, Reynolds, and Shadoin voted yea.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen F. Carter, Chairman  
House Committee on Education