

## **House Committee on Education**

Minutes of Meeting  
2016 Regular Session  
March 23, 2016

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

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. in Room 1, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman  
Representative Beryl A. Amedée  
Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.  
Representative Chris Broadwater  
Representative Rick Edmonds  
Representative Reid Falconer  
Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall  
Representative Stephanie Hilferty  
Representative Walt Leger, III  
Representative Edward J. Price, vice chairman  
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds  
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Stephen F. Carter  
Representative Scott M. Simon

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

Elizabeth L. Borne, legislative analyst  
Nancy Y. Jolly, legislative analyst  
Jacqueline Snowden, secretary

#### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Karli Roussel, clerk

Beverly Vincent, sergeant at arms

### **III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

#### **House Bill No. 218 by Representative Hoffmann**

Representative Hoffmann presented House Bill No. 218, which prohibits the use of tobacco products on elementary and secondary school property.

Cindy Bishop, Louisiana Athletic Trainers Association, (225) 933-5435, spoke in support of House Bill No. 218..

Melissa Martin, representing DHH-OPH, 628 N. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-9361, spoke in support of House Bill No. 218.

Erin Bendily, state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the State Department of Education, 1201 Claiborne, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 218.

Representative Leger offered a motion to report House Bill No. 218 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 218 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Edmonds, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Price, Reynolds, and Smith voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 175 by Representative Hilferty**

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 175, which provides for requirements for training early learning center employees on recognizing and preventing shaken baby syndrome.

Ms. Melanie Bronfin, representing the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children, 426 Aherton Dr., Metairie, LA 70005, (504) 228-0988, spoke in support of House Bill No. 175.

Representative Leger offered a motion to report House Bill No. 175 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 175 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Edmonds, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Price, Reynolds, and Smith voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 562 by Representative Leger**

Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 562, which permits local public school boards to assign students to charter schools under certain circumstances.

Representative Leger offered amendments to:

1. Exempt a local school board in a district in which 50% or more of the public schools are charter schools, instead of a district with one or more charter schools, from present law prohibition on assignment of pupils to charter schools.
2. Add that the assignment of pupils to charter schools in such a district may be based on the charter school admission requirements and contract and the local school board policies.

Representative Leger offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Edmonds, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Price, Reynolds, and Smith voted yea.

Seth Bloom, president, Orleans Parish School Board, 3520 General deGaulle Dr., New Orleans, LA 70114, (504) 251-4513, spoke in support of House Bill No. 562.

Dr. Kenneth J. Ducote, representing the Greater New Orleans Collaborative Charter Schools, 3520 General deGaulle Dr., New Orleans, LA 70114, (504) 650-2338, spoke in support of House Bill No. 562 .

Sarah Vandergriff, representing the Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, 1324 New York St., New Orleans, LA 70122, (504) 430-6749, spoke in support of House Bill No. 562 .

Representative Leger offered a motion to report House Bill No. 562 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 562 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Reynolds voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 863 by Representative Talbot**

Representative Talbot presented House Bill No. 863, which prohibits schools from holding membership in certain interscholastic extracurricular athletic associations or organizations.

Representative Nancy Landry offered amendments to:

1. Expand prohibition in proposed law to cover membership in a cocurricular athletic association or organization.

2. Add stipulation that in subdividing schools for playoff competitions, such association or organization is discriminating among schools on the basis of gender, race, and religion.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Reynolds voted yea.

Anthony McGinn, Jesuit High School, 4132 Banks St., New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 483-3810, spoke in support of House Bill No. 863.

Mr. Denny Duron, Evangel Christian Academy, Shreveport, LA, (318) 671-7100, spoke in support of House Bill No. 863.

J. T. Curtis, John Curtis Christian School, 10125 Jefferson Hwy., River Ridge, LA, (504) 939-0419, spoke in support of House Bill No. 863.

Mike McGuire, representing Metairie Park Country Day School, 300 Park Rd., Metairie, LA, (504) 628-2017, spoke in support of House Bill No. 863.

Eddie Bonine, executive director, Louisiana High School Athletic Association, 12720 Old Hammond Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 250-7480, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 863.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 863 with amendments, to which Representative Price objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 863 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Edmonds, Falconer, Hilferty, and Leger voted yea. Representatives Bouie, Hall, Price, Reynolds, and Smith voted nay.

### **House Bill No. 86 by Representative Amedee**

House Bill No. 86, which requires posting of the state child abuse hotline number in all public schools, was deferred.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 97 by Representative Smith**

House Bill No. 97, which requires posting of the state child abuse hotline number in all public schools, was deferred.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 296 by Representative Hoffmann**

House Bill No. 296, which provides relative to courses that satisfy certain requirements relative to high school diplomas and Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) awards, was deferred.

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

**House Bill No. 428 by Representative Broadwater**

House Bill No. 428, which prohibits local public school boards from requiring school uniforms for students, was deferred.

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

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt committee rules. Without objection, the Rules of Procedure for the House Committee on Education were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Falconer, Hall, Hilferty, Price, Reynolds, and Smith voted yea.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Nancy Landry  
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: