

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2016 Regular Session
May 10, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:09 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 Chris Broadwater
Representative Stephen F. Carter
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Reid Falconer
Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Edward J. Price, vice chairman
Representative Scott M. Simon
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.
Representative Stephanie Hilferty

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Beverly Vincent, sergeant at arms

Karli Roussel, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 355 by Senator Cortez

Senator Cortez presented Senate Bill No. 355, which requires contracts to comply with local public school board policy.

Scott Richard, Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 278-5398, spoke in support of House Bill No. 355.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 355 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 355 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Falconer, Hall, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 319 by Senator Perry

Senator Perry presented Senate Bill No. 319, which provides relative to advanced police and service dog training programs.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 319 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 319 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 165 by Representative Pearson

Representative Pearson presented House Bill No. 165, which provides relative to extended sick leave granted to teachers, school bus drivers, and other public school employees in certain instances.

Representative Nancy Landry offered amendments to House Bill No. 165 that would remove references characterizing the sick leave being modified by proposed law as "extended". Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hall, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Pete Jabbia, St. Tammany Parish Public Schools, 321 N. Third, Covington, LA 70434, (985) 898-3223, spoke in support of House Bill No. 165.

David Pittman, St. Tammany Parish School Board, 1968 N. Hwy. 190, Ste. 3, Covington, LA 70433, (985) 630-3229, spoke in support of House Bill No. 165.

Brian Blackwell, Louisiana Association of Educators, 2600 CitiPlace Dr., Ste. 525, Baton Rouge, LA, 70808, (225) 769-2462, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 165.

Marcus Fontenot, Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 923-1037, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 165.

Representative Simon offered a motion to report House Bill No. 165 with amendments, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 165 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Price, and Simon voted yea. Representatives Hall, Leger, and Smith voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support and 7 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt a two-minute rule for discussion. Without objection, a two-minute rule was adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hall, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

The committee recessed at 9:59 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:05 a.m.

Senate Bill No. 224 by Senator Claitor

Senator Claitor presented Senate Bill No. 224, which repeals provisions regarding parking violations on campus declared unconstitutional.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 224 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 224 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hall, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 335 by Senator Claitor

Senator Claitor presented Senate Bill No. 335, which prohibits charter schools from requiring disclosure of certain student information.

Scott Richard, Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 278-5398, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 335.

Sarah Vandergriff, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, 1555 Poydras, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 430-0744, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 335.

Shawn Fleming, Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, 626 Main St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-6804, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 335.

Representative Price offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 335 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 335 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 329 by Senator Claitor

Senator Claitor presented Senate Bill No. 329, which increases the minimum GPA required for the Performance and Honors Awards.

James Caillier, Taylor Foundation, New Orleans, LA, (337) 288-4441, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 329.

Representative Broadwater offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 329 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 329 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1050 by Representative Nancy Landry

Representative Nancy Landry presented House Bill No. 1050, which provides, under certain fiscal conditions, for reductions in Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) award amounts and for charging students the difference between award and tuition amounts.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt a substitute to House Bill No. 1050. Without objection, the substitute was adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1050 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 1050 was reported by substitute by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, one in opposition, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1101 by Representative Bishop

Representative Bishop presented House Bill No. 1101, which provides for public school choice within a public school system.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt a substitute to House Bill No. 1101. Without objection, the substitute was adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hall, Leger, Price, Simon, and Smith voted yea.

Gifford Briggs, Foundation for Excellence in Education, P. O. Box 2866, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 892-7688, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1101.

Sarah Vandergriff, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, 1555 Poydras, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 430-6749, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1101.

Tom Spradley, Louisiana High School Athletic Association, 15256 Cadet Ct., (225) 806-0006, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1101.

Hollis Milton, president, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 12489 Star Hill Trace, St. Francisville, LA 70775, (225) 937-6707, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 1101.

Scott Richard, Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 278-5398, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 1101.

Donald Songy, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, 37617 Seven Oaks Ave., Prairieville, LA 70769, (225) 323-3921, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 1101.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1101 by substitute, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 1101 was reported by substitute by a vote of 7 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, and Simon voted yea. Representatives Falconer, Hall, Price, and Smith voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support and 10 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1075 by Representative Steve Carter

House Bill No. 1075, which provides relative to school district letter grades, was on the meeting agenda but did not receive a hearing by the committee.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support and 9 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Nancy Landry
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: