

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2016 Regular Session
May 24, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.
Representative Chris Broadwater
Representative Stephen F. Carter
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Reid Falconer
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Edward J. Price, vice chairman
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall
Representative Scott M. Simon

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

House Concurrent Resolution No. 136 by Representative Moreno

Representative Moreno presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 136, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study establishing two-way dual language programs in public schools.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 136 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 136 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Price, and Smith voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 446 by Senator Hewitt

Senator Hewitt presented Senate Bill No. 446, which requires the Board of Regents to conduct a comprehensive review of the postsecondary needs of the state and each of its regions.

Representative Falconer offered amendments to revise the requirements of the Board of Regents' report as follows:

- (a) Require the report to include the specified information for the state as a whole and for each region (also known as workforce development areas).
- (b) Relative to needs, itemize considerations for determining educational demand for the state and each region.
- (c) Relative to gaps, require that recommendations identify anticipated costs or savings of certain actions and remove the requirement that recommendations include whether maximizing use of all facilities in a region is needed.
- (d) Relative to barriers, specify that barriers be those that create a comprehensive, efficient, and cost-effective public postsecondary education system.
- (e) Relative to the executive summary of recommendations, provide for meeting the educational demand of the state and each region instead of academic, workforce, and economic development needs.

Representative Falconer 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, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Price, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Broadwater offered amendments that would provide for the repeal of proposed law on July 1, 2017. Representative Broadwater offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yea.

Representative Smith offered amendments that would, relative to assets, require a list of each facility in addition to all immovable property and include certain faculty and staff demographics among required institutional data. Representative Smith offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yea.

Dr. Joe Rallo, commissioner of higher education, Louisiana Board of Regents, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only.

Uma Subramanian, general counsel, Louisiana Board of Regents, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only. (No witness card was submitted.)

Representative Price offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 446 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 446 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yea.

House Bill No. 87 by Representative Amedee

Representative Amedee presented House Bill No. 87, which removes the requirement that certain students in approved home study programs provide documentation of immunization against meningococcal disease.

Representative Amedee offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 87. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 87 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 408 by Senator Milkovich

Senator Milkovich presented Senate Bill No. 408, which authorizes submission of certain charter school applications in certain parishes.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt a two-minute rule for discussion. Without objection, a two-minute rule for discussion was adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yeas.

Tracy J. Thomas, The Pelican Witnesses, 321 Houllard Rd., Pelican, LA 71063, (318) 205-1414, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 408.

Dr. Cade Brumley, superintendent, DeSoto Parish Schools, 201 Crosby St., Mansfield, LA 71052, (318) 872-2836, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 408.

Caroline Roemer, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, New Orleans, LA, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 408.

Scott M. Richard, Louisiana School Boards Association, 7912 Summa Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (337) 278-5398, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 408.

Representative Leger offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on Senate Bill No. 408. Without objection, action on Senate Bill No. 408 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yeas.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 6 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 137 by Representative Smith

Representative Smith presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 137, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study the prevalence and use of student fees in public schools.

Representative Leger offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 137 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 137 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yea.

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

House Concurrent Resolution No. 141 by Representative Broadwater

Representative Broadwater presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 141, which requests the commissioner of higher education and the state superintendent of education to jointly report to the legislature on increasing availability and use of dual enrollment programs.

Representative Price offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 141 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 141 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 139 by Representative Amedee

Representative Amedee presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 139, which encourages the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, public school districts, and public schools to develop guidelines for content standards and curricula relative to religious issues.

Representative Amedee offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 139. Without objection, action on House Concurrent Resolution No. 139 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Amedee, Bouie, Broadwater, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Price, and Smith voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Nancy Landry
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: