

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2018 Regular Session
April 25, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman
Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall, vice chairman
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Joseph Bouie, Jr.
Representative Kendricks "Ken" Brass
Representative Stephen F. Carter
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Reid Falconer
Representative Stephanie Hilferty
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Scott M. Simon
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Polly Thomas
Representative Mark Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Camille Arceneaux, clerk
Beverly Vincent, sergeant at arms
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**Senate Bill No. 401 by Senator Mizell**

Senator Mizell presented Senate Bill No. 401, which creates a commission to study the feasibility of consolidating the Washington Parish and Bogalusa City school systems.

Representative Wright offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 401 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 401 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Emerson, Leger, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 250 by Senator Mizell

Senator Mizell presented Senate Bill No. 250, which requires school governing authorities to provide parents with certain information relative to the health risks associated with pornography.

Erin Bendily, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information on Senate Bill No. 250.

Representative Leger offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 250 that would:

1. Change terminology for what the state Department of Education shall prepare and distribute from "handout" to "information".
2. Delete reference to a particular source of internet filters.
3. Delete uncodified legislative findings.

Representative Leger offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall,

Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hilferty, Leger, Simon, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 250 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 250 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hilferty, Leger, Simon, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

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

House Bill No. 793 by Representative Steve Carter

Representative Steve Carter presented House Bill No. 793, which prohibits hazing and requires policies and education relative to hazing.

Representative Nancy Landry offered amendments to House Bill No. 793 relative to a student who violates the prohibition against hazing that would: (a) add expulsion as a possible penalty; and (b) instead of prohibiting return of the student for at least the term in which the violation occurs, prohibit return for at least one semester, quarter, or comparable academic period.

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, Hall, Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hilferty, Simon, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 793 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 793 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Hilferty, Simon, and Thomas 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 Bill No. 842 by Representative Amedee

Representative Amedee presented House Bill No. 842, which requires daily recess for public school students in grades kindergarten through eight.

Representative Nancy Landry offered a motion to adopt the three-minute rule during testimony on House Bill No. 842. Without objection, the three-minute rule was adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Edmonds, Emerson, Hilferty, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Amedee offered amendments to House Bill No. 842 that would replace "shall provide a recess" with "shall provide recess". Representative Amedee offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Edmonds, Emerson, Hilferty, and Thomas voted yea.

Representative Bouie offered amendments to House Bill No. 842 that would adjust language to include charter schools in the bill. Representative Bouie offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Amedee objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas, 9 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Hall, Bouie, Brass, and Smith voted yea. Representatives Amedee, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Simon, Thomas, and Wright voted nay. Representative Nancy Landry abstained.

Bonnie Baker Richardson, LAHPERD-Recess, 1612 Rosemont Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 927-4432, spoke in support of House Bill No. 842.

Lynn Williamson, East Baton Rouge Parish School System and LAHPERD, 4420 Downing Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 247-8397, spoke in support of House Bill No. 842.

Fiorella Trapani, 4412 Lefkoe Street, Metairie, LA 70006, (504) 957-7523, spoke in support of House Bill No. 842.

Sarah Vandergriff, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, 320 Metairie Hammond Highway, Suite 402, Metairie, LA 70005, (504) 430-6749, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 842.

Dannie Garrett, Louisiana School Boards Association, 635 Main Street, #3, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 842.

Debra Schum, Louisiana Association of Principals, 103 Crawford Street, Winnfield, LA 71483, (504) 909-9650, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 842.

Erin Bendily, state Department of Education, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 842.

Kathy Edmonston, no address given, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 842.

Representative Amedee offered a motion to report House Bill No. 842 with amendments, to which Representative Smith objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 842 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas, 5 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Amedee, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Leger, Thomas, and Wright voted yea. Representatives Hall, Bouie, Brass, Hilferty, and Smith voted nay. Representative Nancy Landry abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Vice Chairman Hall in the chair.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 22 by Representative Leger

Representative Leger presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 22, which creates the Children's Savings Accounts Task Force to study and make recommendations relative to establishing a children's savings account program in Louisiana.

Aylin Maklansky, 1111 Lowerline Street, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 669-8269, spoke in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 22.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 22 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 22 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

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

Chairman Landry in the chair.

House Bill No. 803 by Representative Armes

Representative Armes presented House Bill No. 803, which requires public school boards to notify certain school bus operators of route vacancies by certified mail.

Representative Leger offered a motion to report House Bill No. 803 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 803 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Leger, Smith, Thomas, and Wright 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.

The committee stood at ease at 11:45 a.m. The committee reconvened at 11:55 a.m.

Senate Bill No. 224 by Senator Barrow

Senator Barrow presented Senate Bill No. 224, which requires instruction and display of the national motto "In God We Trust" in public schools.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 224 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 224 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Bouie, Brass, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Hilferty, Simon, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. 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 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Nancy Landry
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: