

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2018 Regular Session
May 1, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Nancy Landry, chairman of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.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 Kendricks "Ken" Brass
Representative Stephen F. Carter
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Reid Falconer
Representative Walt Leger, III
Representative Scott M. Simon
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Polly Thomas
Representative Mark Wright

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:

Camille Arceneaux, clerk
Beverly Vincent, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**House Bill No. 671 by Representative Nancy Landry**

Representative Nancy Landry presented House Bill No. 671, which provides relative to authorized payroll withholdings for professional organization dues and certain contracts with school boards.

Representative Nancy Landry offered amendments to House Bill No. 671 that would provide that the maximum administrative fee is based on the amount to be remitted instead of the amount withheld. Representative Nancy Landry 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, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Leger, Simon, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to report House Bill No. 671 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 671 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Leger, Simon, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, and 11 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Resolution No. 112 by Representative Nancy Landry

Representative Nancy Landry presented House Resolution No. 112, which requests that the Louisiana Community and Technical College System develop a pilot scholarship program for certain adults.

Monty Sullivan, president, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, 265 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (504) 256-2124, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 112.

Representative Brass offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 112 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 112 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Emerson, Falconer, Leger, Simon, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

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. 399 by Representative Gary Carter

On behalf of Representative Gary Carter, Representative Leger presented House Bill No. 399, which, in the event of insufficient funding, provides for reducing or eliminating Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) awards based on certain academic and financial criteria and eliminating payment of certain stipends to students.

Representative Leger offered a motion to withdraw amendments adopted at the April 26, 2018, committee meeting on House Bill No. 399. Without objection, the motion to withdraw the amendments passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Leger, Simon, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Representative Leger offered amendments to House Bill No. 399 that would revise the procedure for funding or reducing TOPS awards in the event of insufficient funding by providing for a prioritization schedule based on award levels and Pell Grant eligibility. 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, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Leger, Simon, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Dr. Sujuan Boutte, executive director, office of student financial assistance, state Department of Education, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 399. No witness card was submitted.

James A. Caillier, Taylor Foundation, One Lee Circle, New Orleans, LA, (504) 589-0471, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 399.

Representative Leger offered a motion to report House Bill No. 399 with amendments, to which Representative Thomas objected. The secretary called the roll, and House Bill No. 399 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas, 4 nays, and 1 abstention. Representatives Hall, Brass, Steve Carter, Emerson, Leger, Smith, and Wright voted yea. Representatives Amedee, Falconer, Simon, and Thomas voted nay. Representative Nancy Landry abstained.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 11 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records. At the request of the author, witness cards submitted

for House Bill No. 399 at the April 26, 2018, meeting of the House Committee on Education were recorded for the May 1, 2018, meeting.

House Resolution No. 136 by Representative Hoffmann

On behalf of Representative Hoffmann, Representative Steve Carter presented House Resolution No. 136, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study the possibility of lowering the performance rating required for teachers to be granted tenure or to reacquire tenure.

Representative Thomas offered a motion to involuntarily defer action on House Resolution No. 136. Without objection, action on House Resolution No. 136 was involuntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Emerson, Falconer, Leger, Smith, and Thomas voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support, and 5 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Vice Chairman Hall in the chair.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 by Representative Norton

Representative Norton presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 11, which requests that the state Department of Education include school-level and system-level data in an annual report of the status of health and physical education in public schools, and that schools and school governing authorities respond to the department's survey relative to such report.

Erin Bendily, state Department of Education, no witness card submitted, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 11.

Representative Amedee offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Emerson, Falconer, Leger, Smith, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

Chairman Nancy Landry in the chair.

The committee stood at ease at 2:27 p.m. The committee reconvened at 2:38 p.m.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 63 by Representative Smith

On behalf of Representative Smith, Erin Bendily, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, no address given, presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 63, which creates a task force to study the assessment of fees to students at public and certain nonpublic elementary and secondary schools.

Representative Steve Carter offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 63 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 63 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Nancy Landry, Hall, Amedee, Brass, Steve Carter, Edmonds, Emerson, Falconer, Thomas, and Wright voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Nancy Landry
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: