

House Committee on Retirement

Minutes of Meeting
2019 Regular Session
May 2, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative J. Kevin Pearson, chairman of the House Committee on Retirement, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative J. Kevin Pearson, chairman
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Mark Abraham
Representative Tony Bacala
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Sam Jones, vice chairman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Barbara W. Carpenter
Representative Paul Hollis

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tyler Bosworth, legislative analyst
Jennifer Watson, secretary
Bryan Vincent, division director

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

The committee stood at ease at 9:37 a.m. The committee reconvened at 9:46 a.m.

Senate Bill No. 1 by Senator Peacock

Senator Peacock presented Senate Bill No. 1, which provides for the investment of funds by the board of trustees for the Bossier City Police Pension and Relief Fund.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 1 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 1 was reported favorably by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, LaCombe, Moore, Abraham, Bacala, and Ivey 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.

Senate Bill No. 13 by Senator Johns

Senator Johns presented Senate Bill No. 13, which provides for a surviving spouse benefit to resume in certain circumstances.

Lieutenant Colonel Mike Noel, Louisiana State Police, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 925-1900, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 13.

Representative Jones offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 13 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 13 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, LaCombe, Moore, Abraham, Bacala, Ivey, and Jones voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 10 by Senator White

On behalf of Senator White, Skip McGee, Louisiana Sheriffs Pension Fund, 1225 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 219-0500, presented Senate Bill No. 10, which provides relative to permanent benefit increases.

Gregory Curran, actuary, 10555 North Glenstone Place, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 769-4825 spoke for information only on House Bill No. 10.

Representative Bacala offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 10 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 10 was reported favorably by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, LaCombe, Moore, Abraham, Bacala, and Ivey 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.

Senate Bill No. 15 by Senator Long

On behalf of Senator Long, Commissioner Mike Strain, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Third Floor, Louisiana State Capitol Building, 900 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7270, presented Senate Bill No. 15, which provides for firefighters at state agencies to be members of the hazardous duty plan.

Wade Dubea, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 5825 Florida Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 925-4500, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 15.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 15 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 15 was reported favorably by a vote of 6 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, LaCombe, Moore, Abraham, Ivey, and Jones voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 16 by Senator Long

On behalf of Senator Long, Irwin Phelps, Louisiana State Police Retirement System, 9224 Jefferson Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 295-8460, presented Senate Bill No. 16, which provides relative to investment of lump-sum benefits.

Charles Bujol, executive director, Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System, 8660 United Plaza Boulevard, First Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-6486, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 16.

Representative Jones offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 16 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 16 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, LaCombe, Moore, Abraham, Bacala, Ivey, and Jones voted yea.

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

Vice Chairman Sam Jones in the chair.

House Bill No. 19 by Representative Pearson

Representative Pearson presented House Bill No. 19, which requires certain payments from minimum foundation program formula funds to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.

Representative Pearson offered amendments to change the effective date and make technical changes. Representative Pearson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Pearson, LaCombe, Moore, Abraham, Bacala, Ivey, and Jones voted yea.

Joan Hunt, executive counsel, Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-3572, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 19.

Erin Bendily, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, no address provided, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 19.

Patricia Wilton, office of the attorney general, 1885 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 326-6000, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 19.

Dannie Garrett, Louisiana School Boards Association, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, (225) 382-0333, spoke in support of House Bill No. 19.

Leslie Jacobs, New Orleans Business Council, 625 Saint Charles, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 982-0484, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 19.

Mary Patricia Wray, Louisiana Public Pension Coalition, 430 Europe Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 19.

Millie Harris, JCFA, 475 Manhattan Boulevard, Harvey, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 19.

Ken Ducote, GNO Collaborative of Charter Schools, 2401 Westbend Parkway, Suite 3040, New Orleans, LA 70114, (504) 309-3245, spoke in opposition to on House Bill No. 19.

Dana Vicknair, Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 925-6454, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 19.

Camille Conaway, Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, 451 Florida Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 928-5370, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 19.

Caroline Roemer, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, Metairie, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 19.

Representative Pearson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 19 with amendments, to which Representative Ivey objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 2 yeas and 5 nays. Representatives Pearson and Jones voted yea. Representatives LaCombe, Moore, Abraham, Bacala, and Ivey voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support, and 17 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 12:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman J. Kevin Pearson
House Committee on Retirement

Date adopted: