

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2025 Regular Session
June 3, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Laurie Schlegel, chair of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Laurie Schlegel, chair
Representative Beryl A. Amedée, vice chair
Representative Kendricks "Ken" Brass
Representative Josh Carlson
Representative Barbara W. Carpenter
Representative Kim Carver
Representative Kathy Edmonston
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg
Representative Terry Landry, Jr.
Representative Charles Anthony Owen
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Sylvia Elaine Taylor
Representative Rashid Armand Young

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elizabeth L. Borné, legislative analyst
Lisa Lovello, legislative analyst
Alexandra Cravins, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Riley Dwight, committee clerk
Myrtis Jarell, sergeant at arms
Johnae' Conner, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS**House Resolution No. 167 by Representative Bayham**

Representative Bayham presented House Resolution No. 167, which requests public postsecondary education institutions in Louisiana to adopt policies and procedures to combat antisemitism on campus.

Bruce Reilly, 4930 Washington Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70111, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 167.

Representative Amedée offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 167 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 167 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, St. Blanc, and Taylor voted yea.

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

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 37 by Senator Edmonds

Senator Edmonds presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 37, to urge and request Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to procure an annual license for a 3D game-based learning platform that aligns with chemistry and physical science standards with real-world technologies to provide improved career opportunities for junior high and high school students.

Representative Taylor offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 37 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 37 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, St. Blanc, and Taylor voted yea.

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

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 38 by Senator Edmonds

Senator Edmonds presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 38, which creates the Task Force on Career Alignment to study ways to implement education-to-career counseling to assist public college and university students to obtain employment in Louisiana after graduation, and provided a handout, "Postsecondary Education Career Alignment", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Brass offered amendments to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 38 that added a task force member to be appointed by the president of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana. Representative Brass offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, and Taylor voted yea.

Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Board of Regents, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 6-200, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 38.

Barry Erwin, Leaders for a Better Louisiana, P.O. Box 4308, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, spoke for information only on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 38.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 38 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 38 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 39 by Senator Edmonds

Senator Edmonds presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 39, which requests Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to make accessible to athletic directors and coaches a training program covering important safety information for the prevention and treatment of injuries in student athletes.

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 39 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 39 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, and Taylor voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40 by Senator Edmonds

Senator Edmonds presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40, which creates the K-12 School Safety Task Force to study and make recommendations relative to school safety and security.

Tyler Wood, Louisiana Youth Advisory Council, 1250 Highway 3226, DeRidder, LA, spoke in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40.

Owen Esté, Louisiana Youth Advisory Council, 71161 Bryan Street, Abita Springs, no state provided, spoke in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40.

Lucille Kincade, Louisiana Youth Advisory Council, 917 Poplar Street, Morgan City, LA 70380, spoke in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40 that:

1. Changed certain task force members from a member of the organization to the executive director or president, as applicable, or a designee of the following organizations: Louisiana School Boards Association, Louisiana Association of School Superintendents, Louisiana Association of Educators, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, Louisiana Federation of Teachers, Louisiana Association of Principals, Louisiana School Facility Managers Association, and Louisiana Sheriffs' Assoc.
2. Added the chairman of the Peace Officer Standards and Training Council as an ex-officio task force member.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, and Taylor voted yea.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 202 by Senator Harris

Senator Harris presented Senate Bill No. 202, which transfers the University of New Orleans to the Louisiana State University System.

Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Board of Regents, 1201 North Third Street, Suite 6-200, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 202.

John Walters, Louisiana State University, 3810 West Lakeshore Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 202.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 202 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 202 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted yea.

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

Senate Bill No. 121 by Senator Selders

Senator Selders presented Senate Bill No. 121, which provides for mental health screenings in schools.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 121 that required the Louisiana Department of Health to select mental health screening tools rather than a screener and provide the tools rather than the screener to school boards. Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted yea.

Representative Amedée offered amendments to authorize rather than require school boards to offer mental health screenings. Representative Amedée offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Owen, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted yea.

Representative Brass offered amendments to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 121 that prohibited schools and vendors from collecting metadata when conducting screenings. Representative Brass offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted yea.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 121 that required schools to identify the screening tool being used and include this information on the parental consent form. Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Owen, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted yea.

Representative Edmonston offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 121 that required schools to give a parent or legal guardian the opportunity to review the mental health screening before giving consent for his child to undergo that screening. Representative Edmonston offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Freiberg objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 5 yeas and 8 nays. Representatives Amedée, Carlson, Carver, Edmonston, and Owen voted yea. Representatives Schlegel, Brass, Carpenter, Freiberg, Terry Landry, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted nay.

Bruce Reilly, Voice of the Experience (VOTE), 4930 Washington Avenue, New Orleans, LA, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 121.

Dr. Will Hall, Louisiana Baptist Office of Public Policy, 1250 MacArthur Drive, Alexandria, LA 71309, spoke in opposition to Senate Bill No. 121.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 121 with amendments, to which Representative Amedée objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and Senate Bill No. 121 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 1 nays. Representatives Brass, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Owen, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted yea. Representative Amedée voted nay. Representative Schlegel abstained.

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

House Resolution No. 251 by Representative Echols

Representative Echols presented House Resolution No. 251, which requests that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education study and report relative to the voting threshold required for parental approval for the conversion of a preexisting school to a charter school.

Caroline Roemer, Louisiana Charter Schools in Action, no address provided, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 251.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 251 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 251 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays.

Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted yea.

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

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Representative St. Blanc offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Brass, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, St. Blanc, Taylor, and Young voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chair Laurie Schlegel
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: March 18, 2026