

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2026 Regular Session
May 19, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Laurie Schlegel, chair of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:05 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 Reese "Skip" Broussard
Representative Josh Carlson
Representative Barbara W. Carpenter
Representative Kim Carver
Representative Kathy Edmonston
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg
Representative Terry Landry, Jr.
Representative Chasity Martinez
Representative Charles Anthony Owen
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver
Representative Sylvia Elaine Taylor

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Jairelle Ross, committee assistant
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS**Senate Bill No. 484 by Senator Abraham**

Senator Abraham presented Senate Bill No. 484, which transfers certain duties from the Board of Regents to the management boards of public colleges and universities and Louisiana Works.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 484 that:

1. Relative to the Louisiana Health Works Commission, reinstated present law relative to the Board of Regents' jurisdiction, provided that the secretary of Louisiana Works or the secretary's designee shall serve as the co-chair, and provided that the executive committee shall elect the other co-chair.
2. Reinstated present law providing for the Board of Regents' authority relative to Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.

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, Broussard, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 484 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 484 was reported with amendments by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 157 by Senator Jenkins

Senator Jenkins presented Senate Bill No. 157, which provides for paid parental leave for eligible employees.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 157 that required rather than authorized a local education agency to require an employee requesting parental leave to produce supporting documents of his request. Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 14 yeas and

0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Anne Dayes, Louisiana Public Health Institute, 400 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 157.

Erika Musgrove, 7856 Clover Ridge Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 157.

Larry J. Carter, Jr., Louisiana Federation of Teachers, 9623 Brookline Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 157.

Representative Martinez offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 157 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 157 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for Senate Bill No. 157.

Senate Bill No. 83 by Senator Edmonds

Senator Edmonds presented Senate Bill No. 83, which provides for training to prevent human trafficking at public elementary and secondary schools and provides for victims' services.

Representative Freiberg offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 83 that:

1. Added a requirement that the Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS) make advocacy services available for youth victims of human trafficking.
2. Added debt bondage or labor trafficking to the proposed law definition of "human trafficking."
3. Added a definition of "youth" (a person 18-21 years of age).
4. Added that the implementation of proposed law requiring DCFS to make certain services available to children and youth victims of human trafficking is subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature.

Representative Freiberg 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, Broussard, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

MaryKate Andrepont, Office of the Louisiana Governor, 900 West Third Street, no city or state provided, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 83.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 83 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 83 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 450 by Senator Edmonds

Senator Edmonds presented Senate Bill No. 450, which requires mandatory reporting of school threats and provides for physical security school assessments for K-12 schools.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 450 that:

1. Provided that records provided for in proposed law are subject to the present law public records exemption for certain records.
2. Removed the requirement that the state Department of Education advise all elementary and secondary schools of the availability of physical security school assessments and instead require the Department to post on its website information regarding such availability.
3. Added employees of charter schools and nonpublic schools to the proposed law limitation of liability.

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, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Edmonston, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Lincoln Trumps, Legislative Youth Advisory Council, 118 Paige Place Avenue, Broussard, LA, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 450.

Brinkley Bennett, Legislative Youth Advisory Council, 14713 Pendleton Way, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 450.

John Parker, Legislative Youth Advisory Council, 23490 Thornhill Road, Bush, LA 70431, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 450.

Representative Carlson offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 450 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 450 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Edmonston, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yeas.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 132 by Senator Kleinpeter

Senator Kleinpeter presented Senate Bill No. 132, which provides that each public school board is to install exterior master key boxes to allow for rapid entry, response, and rescue by law enforcement and first responders during a school crisis.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 132 that:

1. Required public school governing authorities that have not, prior to January 1, 2028, instituted a system for allowing access to locked facilities to law enforcement officials to install at least one exterior master key box on the campus of each public school under its jurisdiction, instead of requiring such installation by all governing authorities.
2. Required the method by which law enforcement officers and other first responders can obtain access to locked facilities to serve as an alternative to including the location of an exterior master key box when public school governing authorities report blueprints and school mapping data to local law enforcement.
3. Made technical changes to the bill.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Edmonston, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, and Taylor voted yeas.

Eric Sunstrom, Knox Box, P.O. Box 82901, Baton Rouge, LA 70884, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 132.

Vice Chair Amedée in the chair.

Representative Owen offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 132 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 132 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Edmonston, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Resolution No. 251 by Representative Carver

Representative Carver presented House Resolution No. 251, which requests the state Department of Education to study the feasibility of incorporating recess into schedules for elementary school students in grades kindergarten through three. Representative Carver requested that no action be taken on House Resolution No. 251.

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

The committee recessed at 10:28 a.m. The committee reconvened at 10:31 a.m. The committee administrative assistant called the roll.

House Bill No. 902 by Representative Marcelle

Representative Marcelle presented House Bill No. 902, which provides relative to the creation of a trauma-informed training program.

Alma Stewart Allen, Louisiana Center for Health Equity, P.O. Box 82637, Baton Rouge, LA 70884, spoke in support of House Bill No. 902.

Ashley Townsend, Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 902.

Ken Bradford, Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 902.

Dr. Will Hall, Louisiana Baptist Office of Public Policy, 1250 MacArthur Drive, Alexandria, LA 71309, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 902.

Representative Taylor offered a motion to report House Bill No. 902 favorably, to which Representative Carlson objected. Representative Carlson offered a substitute motion to involuntarily defer action on House Bill No. 902. Representative Carlson withdrew the motion. No action was taken on Representative Taylor's motion to report House Bill No. 902 favorably.

Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 902. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 902 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

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

Chair Schlegel in the chair.

House Resolution No. 249 by Representative Fisher

Representative Fisher presented House Resolution No. 249, which requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to incorporate artificial intelligence into content standards.

Ashley Townsend, Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 249.

Representative Broussard offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 249 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 249 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Senate Bill No. 338 by Senator Barrow

On behalf of Senator Barrow, Representative Carpenter presented Senate Bill No. 338, which provides for preventing bullying in schools.

Mary Susie Labry, 850 North Fifth Street, #102, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 338.

Ashley Townsend, Louisiana Department of Education, no witness card provided, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 338.

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on Senate Bill No. 338. Without objection, action on Senate Bill No. 338 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support, and 2 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 501 by Senator Jackson-Andrews

On behalf of Senator Jackson-Andrews, Representative Carpenter presented Senate Bill No. 501, which requires public postsecondary education institutions to post information on campuses promoting STI prevention, screening, and treatment to be known as the Campus Awareness Initiative.

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 501 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 501 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor 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. OTHER BUSINESS**Remarks from Dr. Cade Brumley, state superintendent of education, pertaining to Louisiana's education rankings.**

Dr. Cade Brumley, Louisiana Department of Education, Claiborne Building, no address provided, gave introductory remarks to the committee, and provided a handout, "Louisiana's 2026 Education Scorecard", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Laurie Schlegel
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: