

See Budget Bill to Amend

HOUSE FILE 2449

Budget
Hill of Jasper, Chairperson
Miller of Des Moines 1978

Curtis
Hulse
Scott
~~Calendar~~

HOUSE FILE 2449

By COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

(Formerly Study Bill 500)

Passed House, Date 5-10-78 (p. 2430) Passed Senate, Date 5-12-78 (p. 1411)

Vote: Ayes 78 Nays 5 Vote: Ayes 47 Nays 5

Approved *Y. Hill* 6/30/79

A BILL FOR

1 An Act appropriating funds to the legislative oversight
2 bureau.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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House failed to override veto 7/14 (p. 2896)

2449

1 Section 1. There is appropriated to the legislative
2 oversight bureau for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1978
3 and ending June 30, 1979 the sum of one hundred fifty thousand
4 (150,000) dollars, or so much thereof as is necessary, to
5 be used for salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous
6 purposes.

7 Sec. 2. All federal grants to and the federal receipts
8 of the agency appropriated funds under this Act are
9 appropriated for the purposes set forth in such federal grants
10 or receipts.

11 EXPLANATION

12 This bill appropriates funds for operation of the
13 legislative oversight bureau which was created by House File
14 246 approved by the 1978 Session of the General Assembly.

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Office of the Governor

STATE CAPITOL
DES MOINES IOWA 50319

ROBERT D RAY
GOVERNOR

June 30, 1978

The Honorable Dale M. Cochran
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Iowa House of Representatives
L O C A L

Dear Mr. Speaker:

House File 2449, an act appropriating funds to the legislative oversight bureau, is hereby disapproved and returned to the House of Representatives in accordance with Article III, Section 16, of the Constitution of the State of Iowa.

The appropriation contained in this bill implements the Legislative Oversight Bureau created by House File 246 which became law earlier this year. We understand that the \$150,000 in this bill is intended for the hiring of a director at a salary of approximately \$40,000, a staff of four full-time individuals, the hiring of consultants, and overhead costs. Furthermore, the \$150,000 is not a true reflection of the annual costs of the Legislative Oversight Bureau's operations since the office will not be geared up until some time into the next fiscal year. The purported purpose of the Legislative Oversight Bureau is to help legislators determine if state government is running according to their intent.

One of the most essential components of good government is finding and keeping talented managers to administer the programs and policies of state agencies. Contrary to other employees in government and out of government, our state department heads have received limited salary increases in the past three years--in most cases not even the equivalent to the increase in the cost of living. This year the legislature failed to provide even a cost-of-living salary increase for our department heads when Senate File 2258 was not brought up for consideration in the House after being passed in the Senate by a vote of 35 to 7. This unfair treatment of these key decision-makers and administrators comes at a time when the annual rate of inflation is running at 8 to 10 percent.

The Honorable Dale M. Cochran
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June 30, 1978

The legislature is willing to equip its Legislative Oversight Bureau in more than an adequate fashion. Yet it refuses to provide so much as a minimum cost-of-living increase to our department heads. It is not only unfair, it is inconceivable that the legislature would penalize the managers of state government while at the same time hire a high-priced individual and a whole new staff to oversee and rate the performance of the men and women who are responsible for making government work. To illustrate the point, it is incongruous that the legislature would limit the pay for the chief financial manager of the executive branch of state government, the Comptroller, to \$34,500 while at the same time pay their new director of the Legislative Oversight Bureau \$40,000 when that individual's duties pale in comparison with those of the Comptroller.

Even though I had serious reservations about the intent of legislators when they passed House File 246, the bill establishing the Legislative Oversight Bureau, I signed it in good faith making every attempt to be cooperative with the legislature. At that time, it was well known that I considered it essential that the department heads in the executive branch be treated fairly. Their actions, or rather their inactions, fail to convince me of good faith on their part.

Earlier I had some hope that the legislature might still complete passage of the salary bill when it reconvened today. At this moment, I have no indication they will take this action, and since they insisted that this bill be delivered to my office when it was, I now have no more time to wait and see. Therefore, I am compelled to veto this bill.

For the reasons I have outlined above, I hereby respectfully disapprove of this House File 2449.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Ray
Governor

RDR:cg
cc: Secretary of the Senate
Chief Clerk of the House

AN ACT
APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT BUREAU.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. There is appropriated to the legislative oversight bureau for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1978 and ending June 30, 1979 the sum of one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) dollars, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes.

Sec. 2. All federal grants to and the federal receipts of the agency appropriated funds under this Act are appropriated for the purposes set forth in such federal grants or receipts.

DALE M. COCHRAN
Speaker of the House

ARTHUR A. NEU
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 2449, Sixty-seventh General Assembly.

DAVID L. WRAY
Chief Clerk of the House

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Approved 6/30, 1978

ROBERT D. RAY
Governor