

# F I N A L R E P O R T

## LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES STUDY COMMITTEE

January, 1984

The Legislative Procedures Study Committee was established by the Legislative Council and authorized one meeting to examine the procedures of the Senate and House of Representatives and the joint rules. Members of the Study Committee were:

Senator Lowell Junkins  
Representative Donald Avenson  
Senator Calvin Hultman  
Senator Bill Hutchins  
Senator Jack Nystrom  
Representative Wayne Bennett  
Representative Tom Fey  
Representative Delwyn Stromer

The Study Committee met on January 4, 1984 and discussed several aspects of the joint rules and the rules of both chambers. The Study Committee made the following recommendations for consideration by the Seventy-first General Assembly:

1. That the standing committees on energy and on natural resources be consolidated and that the state government appropriations subcommittees and regulatory and finance appropriations subcommittees be consolidated.

2. That both chambers have parallel committee structures.

3. That challenges to rulings upon and suspension of the rule on germaneness should be avoided.

4. That both chambers refrain from effecting statutory changes unnecessary to an appropriation in an appropriations bill.

The Study Committee also recommended the following for the 1984 Session of the Seventieth General Assembly:

1. That the joint rules be amended to drop the requirement that bills reported out of finance committee bear a fiscal note and that it be replaced in the rules of the House and Senate.

2. That the Study Committee be authorized by the Legislative Council to continue its examination of the budget process.

3. That the joint rules committee examine the possibility of holding a veto session.

4. That both the House and Senate amend their rules to limit the printing of resolutions in the journals and that the resolutions be printed in the manner of bills.

5. That the House amend its rules as follows:

a. Rule 33 to provide that bills with minor fiscal impact from the ways and means committee or appropriations committee are not required to be referred to finance committee.

b. Rule 49 to require referral of study bills to committees by the speaker.

c. Rule 52 to allow the finance committee to dispense with the appointment of a subcommittee on a bill which has been reported from another committee.

d. Rule 74 to provide that a motion to reconsider is deemed to have failed upon adjournment.