



MINUTES

Studies Committee of the Legislative Council

June 16, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Sandra H. Greiner,
Chairperson
Representative Chuck Gipp
Representative Christopher C. Rants
Representative Philip Wise

Senator Mary Lundby,
Co-vice Chairperson
Senator Amanda Ragan,
Co-vice Chairperson
Senator Michael E. Gronstal
Senator John P. Kibbie

MEETING IN BRIEF

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- I. Procedural Business.
- II. Guidelines for Interim Studies Committees.
- III. Consideration of Proposed Interim Studies.
- IV. Report of the Studies Committee.
- V. Materials Filed With the Legislative Services Agency.
- VI. Attachments.



Studies Committee of the Legislative Council

I. Procedural Business.

Convening. Co-vice Chairperson Lundby called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. on Friday, June 16, 2006, in Room 22 of the State Capitol in Des Moines, Iowa.

Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the June 27, 2005, meeting of the Studies Committee were approved.

Consideration of Study Proposals. Committee actions are summarized in these minutes.

Adjournment. The Studies Committee adjourned at 9:12 a.m.

II. Guidelines for Interim Studies Committees.

Guidelines for interim studies for 2005 and 2006 approved by the Legislative Council on June 27, 2005, were included in the Committee packet. A copy of the guidelines is attached to these minutes as Attachment A.

III. Consideration of Proposed Interim Studies.

Co-vice Chairperson Lundby offered a proposed list of interim studies for the 2006 interim. Senator Gronstal proposed that each interim study committee be authorized to meet for two days and that the legislative leadership of the four caucuses be authorized to approve additional meeting days for an interim study committee as necessary. Senator Gronstal also proposed that each study committee be comprised of four members of the Senate and five members of the House with the exception of the Mental Health, Mental Retardation, Developmental Disabilities, and Brain Injury Services Funding Interim Study Committee whose membership is statutorily mandated to include six members of the Senate, five members of the House, and four specified ex officio members. Upon a motion by Senator Gronstal, the Studies Committee adopted on a voice vote the proposed list of interim studies offered by Co-vice Chairperson Lundby, as amended by the modifications proposed by Senator Gronstal.

IV. Report of the Studies Committee.

The proposals adopted by the Committee were compiled into one report to be presented to the Legislative Council. A copy of the Committee report is attached to these minutes as Attachment B.

V. Materials Filed With the Legislative Services Agency.

A. Studies Compilation: 2006 Legislative Interim Study Information, prepared by the Legislative Services Agency.

B. 2006 Legislative Interim Studies Proposal, distributed by Co-vice Chairperson Lundby.



C. Minutes of the June 27, 2005, meeting of the Studies Committee.

VI. Attachments.

A. Guidelines for Interim Study Committees.

B. Report of the Studies Committee.

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GUIDELINES FOR INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEES

2005-2006 INTERIMS

Submitted to Legislative Council June 27, 2005

ADOPTION OF RULES

Interim study committees must have a majority of the members representing each house voting affirmatively in order to adopt rules.

COMPENSATION OF PUBLIC MEMBERS

Persons serving as public members of study committees are eligible to receive actual expenses only, if they are not eligible for expense reimbursement by an organization that they represent. In order for a public member representing an organization to be eligible to receive actual expenses, the organization must submit a letter to the Legislative Council indicating that the public member is not eligible for the reimbursement from the organization. Payment of the expenses is subject to the approval of the Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Legislative Council.

STAFF WORK FOR PUBLIC MEMBERS

After consultation with, as appropriate, the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) Director, a study committee chair may authorize research or legislative drafting work by the LSA for public members of study committees.

APPROVAL OF NOMINEES

Public members of study committees may be nominated by designated organizations, subject to Legislative Council approval or subject to the approval of the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Council in consultation with the minority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives.

GENDER BALANCE

Appointment of public members to study committees shall be gender balanced.

APPROVAL OF ACTIONS

A majority vote of a study committee's voting members present is necessary to carry any action; however, recommendations to the Legislative Council or General Assembly must be adopted with the affirmative votes of a majority of the committee's members of each house.

VOTING BY PUBLIC MEMBERS

Unless otherwise provided by the General Assembly or the Legislative Council, public members of study committees are nonvoting.

APPROVAL OF MEETINGS OUTSIDE DES MOINES

Any meeting or public hearing by a study committee held outside of Des Moines requires the prior approval of the Studies Committee or legislative leadership.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

When authorization is given for a study committee to hold a public hearing, the committee may hold one hearing as a body or individual members may each hold a public hearing or groups of two or more members may hold public hearings. However, for each authorized public hearing, no members of the study committee may receive compensation for attendance at more than one session.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES FOR SPEAKERS AND CONSULTING WORK

Any expenditure by a study committee for a speaker or presentation requires the prior approval of the Studies Committee and Legislative Council, or legislative leadership. Contractual consulting work for a study committee requires the prior approval of the Studies Committee and the Legislative Council.

SCHEDULING GUIDELINES

For the 2005 interim, the deadline for completion of interim study committee meetings is November 25, 2005, and for the 2006 interim the deadline is December 15, 2006. An interim study committee must meet the deadline or receive an exemption or a revised deadline date from the Legislative Council.

REPORT OF THE STUDIES COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

June 16, 2006

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council met on June 16, 2006, and makes the following report for approval by the Legislative Council:

A. Guidelines. That the attached guidelines for interim study committees were adopted by the Legislative Council for 2005-2006 Interims on June 27, 2005.

B. 2006 Studies. That the Legislative Council authorize interim study committees for the 2006 Interim with the indicated number of members and meeting days to address the following topics, and that the Legislative Council authorize the legislative leadership of the four caucuses to approve additional meeting days for an interim study committee as necessary.

1. **Mental Health, Mental Retardation, Developmental Disabilities, and Brain Injury Services Funding.** Review formulas used for distribution of state funding for mental health, mental retardation, developmental disabilities, and brain injury (MH/MR/DD/BI) services in the state, including examination of the public sources of the funding and programming for the services and input from counties, advocates for persons with disabilities, and other interested persons.
 6 Senate
 5 House
 4 Ex officio, nonvoting members:
 2 representing Iowa State Association of Counties
 1 representing Department of Human Services
 1 representing MH/MR/DD/BI Commission
 2 Meeting Days

2. **Emergency Services.** Study the governance, structure, and funding of the state's emergency services and available training for emergency services providers and receive input from the Department of Public Defense's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management; Departments of Human Services, Public Health, and Public Safety, including the State Fire Marshal; and representatives of emergency services providers, including the Iowa Firemen's Association, Iowa Fire Chiefs Association, Iowa Association of Professional Fire Chiefs, Iowa Professional Fire Fighters, Iowa Emergency Medical Services Association, and emergency room physicians.
 4 Senate
 5 House
 2 Meeting Days

3. **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Weatherization Program.** Review issues involving the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Weatherization Program including financial assistance, the application and intake processes, the community action agencies' assessment and resolution proposal, and whether to involve the Department of Human Services in the administration of the programs to enable low-income persons to access additional assistance programs through a single location.
 4 Senate
 5 House
 2 Meeting Days

- 4. Continuity of Government Planning.** Examine issues relating to the continued functioning of state government following a disaster, including gubernatorial succession, replacement of constitutional officers and department heads, legislative elections to fill vacancies, and continued funding of state government if the General Assembly is unable to meet and pass a budget.

4 Senate

5 House

2 Meeting Days

- 5. Meskwaki Tribal Court.** Continue work to determine the proper manner for the Iowa Court System to recognize civil judgments, decrees, and orders issued by the Meskwaki Tribal Court.

4 Senate

5 House

2 Meeting Days

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Sandy Greiner
Chairperson

Senator Mary Lundby
Co-vice Chairperson

Senator Amanda Ragan
Co-vice Chairperson