

M I N U T E S

STUDIES COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

August 9-10, 1977

The meeting of the Studies Committee of the Legislative Council was called to order at 10:50 a.m. by the Co-Chairperson, Representative Jerry Fitzgerald, in the Speaker's Room of the State House, Des Moines, on Tuesday, August 9, 1977. Members present in addition to the Co-Chairperson were:

Senator George Kinley
Senator Fred Nolting
Senator Richard Ramsey
Speaker Dale M. Cochran
Representative William Hargrave
Representative Floyd Millen
Representative Andrew Varley

Also attending the meeting were Director Serge Garrison, Burnette Koebernick, Thane Johnson, and Diane Bolender of the Legislative Service Bureau; Joe O'Hern, House Majority Caucus Staff Director; and Jim Riordan, Senate Majority Caucus Staff Director. A number of other interested persons were also present for all or parts of the meeting.

Following roll call, copies of a chart listing the 1977 interim studies previously approved by the Legislative Council and the studies requests assigned an A priority by the Studies Committee at its previous meeting at Clear Lake on July 28, were distributed to Studies Committee members. Mr. Garrison commented that the chart also contains lists of legislators tentatively appointed to the Subcommittees by standing committee chairpersons on forms filed with the House and Senate and probable staff assignments for the Legislative Service Bureau, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, House Majority Caucus Staff, and Senate Majority Caucus Staff. He explained that he had met with Legislative Fiscal Bureau and House and Senate personnel to plan the staffing procedure. Mr. Garrison added that the House and Senate have agreed to provide clerical assistance for taking the minutes of the subcommittees and the Legislative Service Bureau staff personnel assigned to the subcommittee will review the minutes and make suggested changes. He also commented that it was agreed that caucus staff will assist in performing research for the subcommittees.

Mr. Garrison added that he had rated the studies in terms of the amount of staff assistance which may be required, and had concluded that there are approximately 21 comprehensive studies, 15 lesser studies, and 10 to 12 simpler studies to staff. Mr. Garrison noted that although the number of subject areas covered by studies is greater than in the past, if the burden of completing minutes is

lessened and with assistance of House and Senate Caucus Staff, it will be possible to provide assistance in more areas. He suggested that the Committee consider the number of members involved and whether members will be able to attend all of the meetings.

Representative Varley inquired whether Mr. Garrison had tabulated the number of person/days. Mr. Garrison responded in the negative. Mr. Cross interjected that although the tabulation was not done for the chart as submitted, the original requests were one-third to one-half more than those actually incurred during the previous interims. Speaker Cochran responded that the person/days for the revised list is 890, which does not include any person/days of visitation committees or joint budget subcommittees. He added that in 1975 there were approximately 1,300 person/days.

Mr. O'Hern stated that the House Majority Caucus Staff has not been fully allocated to subcommittees yet. He noted that once the list of studies is finalized, the various persons responsible for assigning staff will divide up subcommittee responsibilities. He noted that the amount of studies is manageable for the House Majority Caucus Staff.

Mr. Riordan commented that he had arbitrarily assigned staff personnel to various subcommittee areas reflecting the standing committee responsibilities of the staff members during the session. He expressed the belief that some of the Senate Majority Caucus Staff can be valuable in supporting the Legislative Service Bureau staff.

Mr. Cross provided the Committee with information about person/days for previous interims as follows: 1975: House: 1,493 person/days of which 1,172 were paid, Senate: 1,279 person/days of which 939 were paid. 1976: House: 961 person/days of which 770 were paid, Senate: 877 person/days of which 621 were paid. Mr. Cross emphasized that these figures were for all meetings held for the affected year. He also added that those days for interim study committees and standing committees only are as follows: 1975: House: 1,176 person/days of which 918 were paid, Senate: 981 person/days of which 721 were paid. 1976: House: 674 person/days of which 527 were paid, Senate: 576 person/days of which 432 were paid.

It was noted that the total days authorized for study and standing committees for 1975 was 2,157, which compares with 809 authorized on the chart which was distributed to members.

Representative Varley asked about how often standing committees utilize their one-day meeting during an interim, which they are allowed by law. Mr. Cross responded that in 1975 and 1976 only two or three committees utilized this provision and the figures given would include those person/days. Speaker Cochran interjected that with the procedure utilized during the current interim, there will be greater use by standing committees of their allowable day.

Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald noted that there are fewer person/days on the current listing than he had previously believed and suggested that the Committee review the studies on the listing and include a review of the necessity of utilizing the full committee later in the interim to review the findings of the subcommittees. The Committee proceeded to review the listing which is attached to the minutes and by this reference made a part thereof.

With regard to the request by the joint Committees on Agriculture relating to corporate farm reporting, it was suggested that the number of meetings might be reduced. Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald suggested that the Committee should also consider whether the standing committees might require more than one day to discuss legislation. Representative Varley moved that the number of meeting days for that study be reduced to six with three members from the Senate and five members from the House. Senator Ramsey moved that the motion be amended to specify three members from the House. Representative Varley expressed the belief that the membership should have five from each house. Representative Ramsey moved a substitute motion that there be three members from each house with two meeting days. Speaker Cochran interjected that the House would like five members. Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald suggested that the recommendations will be taken by the members from each house to the full committee and suggested that equal numbers from each house are not as important. Senator Ramsey withdrew his motion and Representative Varley's amended motion for five members from each house with three meeting days carried on a voice vote.

The proposals for the Committee on Budget were approved as presented in the chart.

Questions were raised about the seven member subcommittee of the House Committee on Budget studying state appropriation of federal funds. Speaker Cochran interjected that twenty-five states have acted in the area of appropriating federal funds.

For the study of public works projects to be conducted by the House Committee on Budget, questions were raised as to its scope. Representative Varley noted that funds had been appropriated for certain public works projects two years ago which were not expended. Mr. Riordan asked whether such a study could be conducted during the regular legislative session. Mr. O'Hern responded that this would not be possible. He added that money was appropriated for public works projects on several occasions which met with varying degrees of success and suggested that a study should be made of the different results.

Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald asked that the Committee members review only number of members and number of meeting days and not the subject matter of the studies during the first review. For the requests by the joint Committees on Cities, Representative Hargrave moved that the study of a revision of the city civil service law contain four Senate members, five House members, and be authorized

two meeting days. The motion was amended to specify three Senate members, three House members, and two meeting days. The motion carried.

For the study of metro government, Representative Hargrave moved that there be three members from each house with two meeting days. Representative Hargrave withdrew his motion and Speaker Cochran moved that there be five members from each house and three meeting days. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Speaker Cochran noted that the proposed chart lists the Committees on County Government conducting a study of rural community development. He explained that a bill on community development has been reported out by the House Committee on Cities and suggested that a joint subcommittee composed of members from the Senate Committee on County Government and House Committee on Cities meet to conduct the study. He moved that there be five members from each house with two meetings authorized. The motion carried.

For the studies for the Committees on Commerce, Representative Hargrave moved that the study of the availability of mortgage loans be approved as presented in the chart. The motion carried. For the study of utility rate increases, Senator Ramsey moved that the membership include three members from each house with three meetings approved. Speaker Cochran suggested that there should be five members from the House. Senator Kinley moved that there be five members from each house with three meeting days approved. The motion carried.

For study of the municipal utilities bill, Senator Kinley noted that such a bill is in the Committee on Commerce in the Senate, but is in the Committee on Energy in the House. Senator Kinley moved that there be three members from each house and one meeting approved. Speaker Cochran suggested that there should be five members from the House. The Committee agreed.

For the Committees on County Government study of county home rule, Representative Hargrave moved that there be five members from the House and three members from the Senate. Senator Kinley moved a substitute motion that there be five members from each house and they be authorized two meetings. The motion carried.

For the Committees on Education, Senator Ramsey moved that the study for equal rights for women in education contain three members from each house and be authorized three meetings. The motion carried. For the study of school finance, Senator Ramsey moved that there be eight members from each house and they be authorized four meetings. Representative Hargrave inquired about whether the school finance study and the Committee on Budget Steering Committee for Policy Research relating to education are overlapping studies. Mr. Riordan responded in the negative, commenting that the steering committee study is to determine the appropriate enrollment figures and not to decide policy concerning what to do about declining enrollment. Mr. O'Hern interjected that

the House membership should contain all members of a standing subcommittee which met during the last legislative session. Speaker Cochran moved that there be ten members from the House and eight members from the Senate with five meeting days approved. The motion carried.

It was noted that the House Committee on Energy had requested one meeting of the entire Committee for a hearing on the construction of nuclear fission power facilities. Mr. Riordan asked whether such a hearing could be held during the regular legislative session. Representative Varley responded that such a hearing would require a full day. Mr. O'Hern stated that members of the House had had debates on whether to restrict the construction of nuclear power plants, and he expressed the belief that such a hearing would provide an opportunity for Energy Committee members to ask questions of knowledgeable persons. Speaker Cochran moved that the recommendation be approved. Senator Ramsey moved that the Senate Committee on Energy also be included in the approval. Senator Kinley expressed opposition to Senator Ramsey's motion, commenting that the Senate Committee Chairperson did not request such a study. Senator Ramsey's motion failed on a voice vote and the motion to approve the study also failed.

The Committee recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m. Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald suggested that the Committee review the studies requested by the Committees on Human Resources. Regarding the study of public health systems, Representative Hargrave moved that three Senate members and five House members be approved and authorized two meetings. Senator Ramsey suggested that the membership contain three from each house with one meeting. Representative Varley expressed opposition to the membership number of three from the House since this number would contemplate a two-to-one party split. Representative Ramsey's motion failed, and Representative Hargrave's motion carried.

Regarding the study of juvenile services, Representative Hargrave moved that it be approved as presented in the chart. Senator Kinley asked whether this study overlaps with the Juvenile Justice study. Representative Hargrave responded in the negative, relating that the study will include all facets of the law relating to juveniles.

Senator Kinley stated that members of the General Assembly should be informed that for any joint subcommittees making final recommendations which have differing numbers of Senate and House members, the recommendations must pass with a majority vote of both houses. The Committee agreed, and Representative Hargrave's motion carried.

The nursing home cost study was approved as presented in the chart.

It was noted that only the House Committee on Human Resources had requested a study of food stamps. Representative

Hargrave noted that the State of Iowa is losing dollars available from the federal government for food stamps because a large percentage of the persons who are eligible are not receiving food stamps. Representative Hargrave moved that the study be approved as presented in the chart. Representative Ramsey moved that the number of meeting days be reduced to one. In response to a question from Representative Millen about the changes anticipated in welfare programs, Representative Hargrave noted that no change would be possible until at least 1980 and two days are necessary for the study. Senator Kinley moved that the House study be expanded to a joint study and that there be three senators and five representatives and one meeting be granted with an option to ask for an additional meeting. Representative Hargrave moved a substitute motion that there be three senators, five representatives, and two meeting days. The motion carried.

It was noted that a joint study relating to the publication of the Criminal Code was requested. Senator Kinley moved that there be three members from each house for one meeting. The motion carried. Regarding the mandated study of the formula for allocation of district court judges, Mr. Koebernick commented that Representative Jesse in his request to the Legislative Council had stated that such a study was necessary to avoid the spiraling number of new judgeships. Senator Ramsey moved that there be three members from each house with an authorization for two meetings. Representative Hargrave moved that there be three members from the Senate, five members from the House, and two meetings. The motion carried.

It was noted that only the House Committee on Judiciary had requested a continuation of the Penal and Correctional Systems Study Committee. Speaker Cochran moved that five members be authorized four meetings. It was noted that the Penal and Correctional Systems Study Committee had met for a number of years and had submitted a number of bills dealing with prisons and prisoners. Mr. O'Hern explained that during the current interim, it is anticipated that the Subcommittee will look at the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Corrections Relief and at the community corrections system. It was noted that the Subcommittee members are also on the Social Services Joint Budget Subcommittee, except for one, and they will utilize visits to prisons under that membership to obtain added information. It was decided to await action on this study until a future time. For the study requested by the House Committee on Judiciary relating to unified law enforcement, it was noted that correspondence from Representative Jesse relating to the purposes of the study suggested a data collection study. Mr. Riordan suggested that data collection could be completed by staff personnel. Representative Millen moved that the study be stricken. The motion carried.

It was noted that there was a House Committee on Judiciary study requested relating to the Iowa-Nebraska boundary dispute. Representative Varley asked whether a legislative committee could accomplish anything with regard to the boundary problems. Represen-

tative Varley moved that one meeting be approved. The motion carried. Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald suggested that the Committee review the request of the Labor and Industrial Relations Committees. It was noted that the chart indicates either full committees or joint subcommittees. Senator Nolting explained that the House Committee intended to divide into subcommittees and hold hearings around the state concerning the unemployment insurance program. He added that the Senate Committee had determined that it desired to meet for two days in Des Moines and obtain information from the Department of Job Service as well as holding a public hearing. Senator Kinley suggested that the entire Committee membership be approved for a one-day meeting and further days could be requested. Senator Nolting expressed the belief that holding hearings throughout the state would not be as beneficial and adequate information could be obtained with a hearing in Des Moines. Senator Kinley moved that a one-day meeting be approved for the hearing and one day for subcommittees to meet. Senator Nolting moved that one day be approved for both full committees to hold a joint hearing and one day for a subcommittee of five members from each house. The motion carried.

For the Natural Resources Committee, Senator Kinley moved that the joint subcommittee studying the comprehensive water plan be composed of five members from each house and granted two meeting days. The motion carried.

It was noted that the study also contemplated a public hearing relating to the water study. Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald suggested that a subcommittee hold the public hearing. Representative Varley suggested that one meeting be added to the subcommittee meeting number with the understanding that it will be a public hearing. The motion carried.

For the State Government Committee's study of obsolete boards and commissions, Mr. Riordan noted that three different study requests were combined for the study. Speaker Cochran moved that five members from each house conduct the study and they be granted four meeting days. The motion carried. For the Uniform Landlord-Tenant Act, Representative Hargrave noted that there is currently no legislation dealing with mobile homes and the present Landlord-Tenant Act is one hundred years old. Representative Hargrave moved that the study be conducted by a subcommittee composed of three members from the Senate, five members from the House, and they be granted two meeting days. The motion carried. For the merit employment practices study relating to collective bargaining and relocation expenses, Representative Varley asked whether there might be duplication between that study and the study of the city civil service law. Mr. Riordan noted that the Labor and Industrial Relations Committees perhaps should be involved because of the collective bargaining aspect of the studies. Senator Nolting noted that the Senate Labor and Industrial Relations Committee had requested a study relating to collective bargaining, but the study was not approved. Representative Varley suggested that a study be

conducted which is not a subcommittee of a specific standing committee. No decision was made.

For the study of the effect of the Iowa Civil Rights Law, it was noted that the House had not requested such a study. Senator Nolting moved that the study be conducted on a joint basis with three members from each house, holding two meetings. The motion carried.

For the Senate request by the Committee on State Government for a study of the open meetings law, Representative Millen moved that the study be stricken. The motion carried.

For the Committee on Transportation's study of railroad abandonment and public road abandonments, Senator Kinley moved that the study be conducted by five members from each house, holding two meetings. The motion carried.

For the study by the Committees on Ways and Means relating to renter's credit, Senator Ramsey asked why the study is not included as a part of the major tax study. Mr. O'Hern responded that the House members believe that the renter's credit study deserves its own separate study and the topic would not receive adequate attention under the general tax study. Senator Nolting moved that there be three members from each house, holding two meetings. The motion carried.

For the study of county fees, Speaker Cochran moved that the study be conducted by three members from the Senate, five members from the House, holding two meetings. The motion carried.

For the request for a House Ways and Means study of the franchise tax, responsibility of corporate officers, and withholding agents, Mr. Koebernick commented that the three are all recommendations submitted by the Department of Revenue and some of them have passed the Senate. Speaker Cochran moved that the Subcommittee be composed of five members from the House and be authorized two meetings. The motion carried.

For the study of the full disclosure of real estate sales prices, Senator Ramsey moved that the study be composed of five members from the House and authorized two meetings. The motion carried.

Discussion followed relating to the recommendation that a special interim study committee be established to consider tort liability problems. Representative Varley noted that the problem is generally related to the liabilities of the state and local governments. He moved that the committee be composed of five members from each house, holding three meetings. Speaker Cochran moved that the committee be composed of six members from each house and authorized three meetings. Representative Varley expressed agreement with Speaker Cochran's substitute motion and discussion followed relating to the committees that should be represented. It was determined that membership should be selected from the State

Government, Judiciary, Commerce, Budget, Cities, and County Government Committees. Mr. Riordan suggested membership of at least one person from each of the standing committees. The motion carried.

Representative Varley suggested establishing a second special interim study committee to review the city civil service law, the merit system, and collective bargaining. The study would be in place of the two subcommittee studies relating to city civil service and the merit system. Representative Varley moved that such a special interim study committee be composed of five members from each house with authorization for three meetings. The motion carried.

Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald noted that Representative Doyle was present and would be able to discuss questions relating to the request of the House Committee on Judiciary for a subcommittee to study penal and correctional systems. Representative Doyle noted that during the 1976 interim, the Penal and Correctional Systems Study Committee, which had been meeting for the past several years, devoted its attention to county and city jails. He noted that the members of the subcommittee are also members of the Social Services Budget Subcommittee which will visit the institutions. He added that the subcommittee will not be a duplication of the Joint Budget Subcommittee's functions. Representative Doyle explained that there is a problem with local jails since eleven have been closed. Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald expressed the belief that the Senate should also have membership on the subcommittee.

Representative Varley suggested that a subcommittee of the Committees on Energy should be established to study hazardous wastes. Representative Doyle noted that Representative O'Halloran had requested such a study. He added that federal funds are available to the state if a bill is passed relating to hazardous wastes. He suggested that three meetings are necessary, which would include meetings with the Department of Environmental Quality. Representative Varley moved that such a subcommittee be established with three members from each house authorized to hold two meetings. The motion carried.

Representative Varley moved that a subcommittee composed of five members from each of the Committees on Energy be authorized to hold a one day meeting on nuclear fission power plants. Senator Ramsey moved that the subject be stricken as a subject for subcommittee meetings. Representative Varley expressed opposition to Senator Ramsey's motion. No decision was made.

Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald called upon Senator Glenn to comment upon why a study of the penal and correctional systems was not requested by the Senate Committee on Judiciary. Senator Glenn noted that historically such a study was done under joint resolution of the two houses. He noted that the Penal and Correctional Systems Study Committee in the past has been a successful liaison committee and if the Legislative Council authorizes its contin-

uance, there should be Senate membership as well. He explained that he does not know how the Committee on Judiciary's membership is divided as far as membership on the Joint Budget Subcommittee on Social Services is concerned. Senator Glenn noted that as a member of the Penal and Correctional Systems Study Committee, the Study Committee made a number of positive achievements at both the statutory and the administrative level. Senator Kinley asked whether three members from each house would be sufficient. Representative Doyle suggested that there be at least five members from each house. Speaker Cochran moved that a joint subcommittee be established with five members from each house, holding four meetings. The motion carried.

Senator Glenn noted that the Studies Committee had not recommended a study of the Criminal Code and public officials and suggested that such a study would include a study of the gift law as it relates to public officials. He suggested that such a subject should be a priority of the General Assembly at its next session. Senator Kinley noted that the House Committee on Judiciary had not requested such a study. Senator Glenn responded that the House Committee on State Government had assumed jurisdiction over the gift law bills. Senator Kinley moved that a joint subcommittee consisting of four members from the House State Government Committee and four members from the Senate Judiciary Committee be authorized four meetings. He suggested that the political party makeup of the subcommittee be equal. The motion carried. Senator Glenn suggested that at least one day be hearings.

Senator Kinley suggested that a joint subcommittee of the Committee on Natural Resources be authorized to follow up on the public hearing held relating to administrative practices of the Conservation Commission. Speaker Cochran agreed, noting that there are a number of areas in which the people are concerned about the practices of the Conservation Commission. Senator Kinley moved that five members from each house be authorized to hold three meetings. The motion carried.

With regard to the Nuclear Fission Power Plants Subcommittee, Senator Ramsey moved that a study be authorized with three members from each House holding one meeting. Representative Varley expressed opposition to the numbers and suggested five members from each house. The motion carried.

Discussion followed relating to a comparison of the number of person/days authorized currently compared to the 1975 interim. It was noted that in addition to the person/days calculates it can probably be assumed that all of the standing committees will use their one day to approve or modify the recommendations of their subcommittees.

Discussion followed relating to whether the Legislative Council should approve the memberships appointed by the standing committee chairpersons. Speaker Cochran suggested that the chairpersons select the memberships, with a Legislative Council

review. Senator Kinley suggested that the Legislative Council meet again in August and not in September.

Mr. Koebernick noted that at the meeting at Clear Lake, the Studies Committee had recommended that the Senate Rules and Administration Committee and the House Administration Committee be authorized to hold such meetings as are deemed necessary.

Mr. Bob Davies, Administrative Assistant to the Speaker, made a request relating to authorization for per diem and expenses for certain legislators to attend a seminar conducted by the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University. He noted that the seminars will be held for the purpose of providing training assistance for program review and evaluation for staff members and legislators. He noted that the initial seminar has been set for August 22 and 23. He added that five studies were selected for the work with staff and legislators, and these include: unemployment compensation, obsolete boards and commissions, Title XX, school finance, and elderly. Mr. Davies explained that there are sixty possible legislative members of the committees and the persons from the Eagleton Institute anticipate that approximately fifteen would be able to attend. He noted that the Eagleton personnel would then work with staff and legislators and hold two more seminars in connection with subcommittee meetings for drawing up plans for reviewing the programs and finalizing the plans.

Representative Hargrave asked about the selection of fifteen individuals. Mr. Davies responded that it would be on a first come, first serve basis. Speaker Cochran suggested that the membership be open to all persons eligible in order to avoid any question of exclusiveness. Senator Kinley suggested paying legislator's expenses. The question was deferred.

With regard to the requests for meetings of visitation committees and joint budget subcommittees, Senator Kinley called for comments from Senator Palmer, Vice-Chairperson of the Legislative Fiscal Committee. Senator Palmer noted that the Legislative Fiscal Committee had scrutinized the requests, and he recommended that they be approved as submitted. Questions were raised as to the meaning of some of the requests. Representative Hargrave expressed the belief that the visitation committees are obsolete now that the joint budget subcommittees have been established. Senator Palmer noted that perhaps some changes are needed in Chapter 2 of the Code relating to the establishment of visitation committees. Senator Kinley moved that the meetings be authorized as recommended by the Legislative Fiscal Committee. The motion carried.

Senator Ramsey moved that the Committee meet at 9:00 a.m. on August 10 to perform a final review of its recommendations. The motion carried and the Committee recessed at 4:55 p.m. and reconvened at 9:20 a.m. on August 10 at the same location with the same Committee members present except that Senator Calvin Hultman was present and Representative Andrew Varley was not present.

Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald called for comments from Committee members concerning a revision of the requested studies. Senator Kinley suggested that the Iowa-Nebraska Boundary Dispute Subcommittee should have been a joint subcommittee. Senator Hultman expressed the belief that there was no need for such a subcommittee at the present time. Discussion followed as to whether such a subcommittee could accomplish anything substantive in a single meeting. Senator Hultman suggested that telephone calls be placed to Representative Avenson and Senator Junkins who were involved in a visit to western Iowa made by the Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural Resources during the 1976 interim.

Senator Hultman questioned whether the County Home-Rule Subcommittee should be involved in questions of implementation of the law when the amendment has not even passed the Senate for the second time. He suggested that the persons performing the study should be made aware that such a study of implementation should be conducted only to determine ramifications.

For a review of person/days, Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald noted that 1,080 person/days were authorized which compares to 2,157 authorized person/days from 1975. He noted that the total will probably be increased because of additional meetings of full standing committees to review the recommendations of the subcommittees. With regard to visitation and budget subcommittee days, Mr. O'Hern explained that the total requested is 645, comparing with 334 person/days for 1975 and 360 person/days for 1976.

Mr. Riordan stated that he had talked with Representative Avenson on the telephone and Representative Avenson had expressed the belief that a one-day meeting for the Nebraska-Iowa boundary dispute would not accomplish any purpose, but he added that a conference with Nebraska lawmakers interested in the dispute and representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers would be fruitful. Representative Doyle commented about the seriousness of the boundary dispute problems. Senator Hultman moved that a joint subcommittee be established with three members from each Committee on Judiciary to study the boundary dispute, with the stipulation that the meeting be a joint meeting with Nebraska officials and persons from the Army Corps of Engineers. The motion carried.

Senator Kinley moved that all studies be approved. Senator Ramsey moved that the study of the food stamp program to be conducted by the Committees on Human Resources Subcommittees be deleted. The motion failed on a voice vote.

Senator Kinley asked that the report clearly indicate that any final recommendations of the joint subcommittees will require a majority of the members of each house. The motion carried.

Senator Ramsey asked for the number of different study areas. Mr. Koebernick commented that there will be fewer meetings of each study, that additional study areas could be covered because

the responsibility for minutes will lie with House and Senate personnel and partisan staff will assist the Committees. Co-Chairperson Fitzgerald interjected that because fewer days are authorized for each study, it will be necessary for the chairperson to make good use of the time allotted.

Senator Hultman noted that because of the increased number of studies and action by standing committees prior to the session, it will be difficult for individual members of the General Assembly to keep abreast of the actions. Speaker Cochran noted that there are approximately fifty different study areas approved. Mr. O'Hern compared this figure with thirty-eight in 1975. Speaker Cochran responded to Senator Hultman's concern by stressing the reports distributed by the Public Information Office.

Senator Hultman moved that authority be granted to the chairpersons of the various standing committees to name the memberships of the authorized subcommittees and report back to the Council at its next meeting. A date for the next Council meeting was discussed. Representative Millen moved that the Legislative Council meet on Wednesday, August 17 to approve memberships. He included a recommendation of Representative Hargrave's that the meeting scheduled for the Public Health Systems Subcommittee of the Committees on Human Resources be allowed to take place prior to that date. The motion carried. Representative Hargrave suggested that the Obsolete Boards and Commissions Study include review of the need for visitation committees.

Further discussion followed relating to whether the number of days for visitations is excessive. Representative Varley suggested that some of the numbers of days of visitation committees be reduced with the proviso that they can use the visits as they deem necessary. Representative Hargrave suggested that the expanded Education Visitation Committee's three day visits to schools be stricken and the Education Visitation Committee visit schools in cities in which they are visiting other educational institutions. No action was taken on Representative Hargrave's motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANE BOLENDER
Research Analyst