



Legislative
Service
Bureau

MINUTES

Iowa Legislative Council

November 18, 1998

Sixth Meeting of 1997-1998 Biennium

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Stewart Iverson, Jr. Chairperson

Speaker Ron Corbett, Vice Chairperson

Senator Tom Flynn

Senator Don Redfern

Representative David Millage

Senator Michael Gronstal

Senator Jack Rife

Representative Pat Murphy

Senator Rod Halvorson

Representative John H. Connors

Representative David Schrader

Senator Johnnie Hammond

Representative Chuck Gipp

Representative Brent Siegrist

Senator John Jensen

Representative Betty Grundberg

Representative Harold Van Maanen

Senator Patty Judge

Representative Libby Jacobs

MEETING IN BRIEF

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1. **Procedural Business.**
2. **Educational Leave Reports.**
3. **Election Laws Supplement Price.**
4. **Interim Study Committee Requests.**
5. **Attorney General Opinion – Item Veto.**
6. **New Member Legislative Orientation.**
7. **Iowa State Capitol Brochure.**
8. **State Capitol Building Historical Exhibit.**
9. **Space Study Consultant Expenses.**
10. **Report of the Fiscal Committee.**
11. **Report of the Service Committee.**
12. **Resolution – Gubernatorial Transition Expense.**
13. **Report of the Oversight Committee.**
14. **Chairperson Service Recognition.**
15. **Attachments.**

Council BUSINESS



1. Procedural Business.

Call to Order. The sixth meeting of the 1997-1998 Legislative Council was called to order by Chairperson Stewart Iverson, Jr., at 1:55 p.m., Wednesday, November 18, 1998, in Room 116, State Capitol, Des Moines, Iowa.

Minutes of June 23 Meeting. Chairperson Iverson asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 23 meeting. There being none, Representative John Connors moved that the minutes of the June 23 meeting be approved as submitted. The motion was adopted.

Adjournment. Senator Tom Flynn moved that the Council meeting adjourn at 2:25 p.m. The motion was adopted.

2. Educational Leave Reports.

Ms. Diane Bolender, Director, Legislative Service Bureau, noted that the educational leave reports are filed annually with the Department of Personnel and the Legislative Council as required by law. The reports itemize the direct and indirect cost to state agencies related to educational leave and educational assistance taken by their respective employees. There being no questions or comments, Representative Connors moved that the educational leave reports be received and filed. The motion was adopted. The educational leave reports are filed with the Legislative Service Bureau.

3. Election Laws Supplement Price.

Ms. Bolender stated that she received a letter from Ms. Julie Dettman, Acting Administrator, Printing and Imaging Division, Department of General Services, regarding the sales price for the 1998 Election Laws Supplement. She stated that the recommended sales price is \$23 per Supplement, excluding retail sales tax. Representative Harold Van Maanen moved that the Legislative Council approve the recommendation of the Department of General Service for the 1998 Election Laws Supplement at \$23 per copy, plus retail sales tax. The motion was adopted unanimously. A copy of Ms. Dettman's letter and Ms. Bolender's reply are attached to these minutes.

4. Interim Study Committee Requests.

Representative Chuck Gipp referred the Council members to a memorandum that includes a compilation of requests from three interim study committees. He stated that the Deregulation and Restructuring of the Electric Utilities Industry Study Committee requests reimbursement for the expenses of receiving expert testimony and approval for the extension of the final meeting deadline until January 8, 1999. The Sentencing Commission, which is conducting a two-year study, requests authorization to hold meetings as necessary during the 1999 Legislative Session and to use the remaining authorized meeting days outside the legislative session. The School Finance Working Committee requests approval of an extension to continue meeting during the 1999



Legislative Session. Representative Gipp moved approval of the requests of the study committees as submitted. The motion was adopted. A copy of the memorandum of referral is attached to these minutes.

5. Attorney General Opinion – Item Veto.

Chairperson Iverson recognized Mr. Ed Cook, Legal Counsel, Legislative Service Bureau, to review an informal Attorney General's opinion regarding an item veto of new disability benefits for special service members in House File 2496 relating to public retirement systems. He noted that Chairperson Iverson, Vice chairperson Ron Corbett, and Representative Gipp, pursuant to motion of the Legislative Council at its June 23 meeting, asked for the informal opinion relating to whether House File 2496 is an appropriation bill which is subject to item veto. He stated that the informal opinion concludes that House File 2496 makes changes to the public retirement systems which arguably would improve the solvency of the retirement systems and, thereby, "significantly affect" the Governor's "budgeting responsibilities." This is a test identified by the Iowa Supreme Court to define an appropriation bill. The informal opinion concluded that House File 2496 is an appropriation bill subject to the item veto. Senator Michael Gronstal stated that he disagrees with the conclusion but he believes that Governor-elect Vilsack will approve the new disability benefits if he is presented with the legislation next legislative session. Representative Gipp noted that the Public Retirement Systems Study Committee will probably address the same issue before the next legislative session. After further discussion, Representative Betty Grundberg moved that the informal Attorney General's opinion be received and filed. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Attorney General's letter is attached to these minutes.

6. New Member Legislative Orientation.

Mr. John Pollack, Committee Services Administrator, Legislative Service Bureau, reported that a new member legislative orientation program has been planned, but a final decision on the date has not yet been made. He requested that the Legislative Council approve funding for the program. Senator Gronstal moved that the Legislative Council authorize the payment of costs for the New Member Legislative Orientation program from moneys available to the General Assembly under section 2.12 of the Code. The motion was adopted.

7. Iowa State Capitol Brochure.

Ms. Julie Livers, Director, Legislative Information Office, presented a sample of a color brochure of the State Capitol to be distributed to visitors by the Legislative Information Office and the Legislative Tour Guides. Ms. Livers reported that 100,000 copies of the brochure will be printed. Representative Pat Murphy moved that Ms. Livers' report be received and filed. The motion was adopted.



8. State Capitol Building Historical Exhibit.

Chairperson Iverson presented a letter from Mr. William H. Jackson, Director, Department of Cultural Affairs, regarding the development of a permanent State Capitol Building historical exhibit. Mr. Jackson states in the letter that a temporary exhibit was established in 1984 to celebrate the centennial of the State Capitol, but that the exhibit cannot easily be updated for changes in leadership of the three branches of state government and is not compatible with the general architecture of the State Capitol. He asked for the cooperation of the Legislative Council, the Capitol Planning Commission, the Friends of Capitol Hill, and other interested agencies in the planning of a new educational exhibit. Chairperson Iverson suggested that the request be forwarded to the Capital Projects Work Group for its consideration. Senator Flynn moved that Mr. Jackson's request be referred to the Capital Projects Work Group. The motion was adopted. A copy of Mr. Jackson's letter is attached to these minutes.

9. Space Study Consultant Expenses.

Chairperson Iverson recognized Senator John Jensen for a request concerning expenses for the legislative space study. Senator Jensen stated that the consultant, Herbert Lewis Kruse Blunck Architecture, incurred extra expenses in completing the legislative space study. He stated that he recommends that the Legislative Council pay the additional contract expenses totaling \$1,958.17. After discussion, Senator Jensen moved that the Legislative Council approve payment of \$1,958.17 to Herbert Lewis Kruse Blunck Architecture from moneys appropriated to the General Assembly under section 2.12 of the Code. The motion was adopted unanimously.

10. Report of the Fiscal Committee.

Chairperson Iverson recognized Representative David Millage for the Report of the Fiscal Committee. Representative Millage stated that the Fiscal Committee met four times since the previous Legislative Council meeting. The Fiscal Committee met on July 15, August 26, September 30, and November 12 and received reports on FY 1998 appropriations transfers, lease purchase acquisitions, infrastructure repair and maintenance, corrections issues, State Board of Regents issues and capital improvement priority plans, agricultural economic outlook, children's health insurance programs, and the new estimated balance sheet for the state. The Fiscal Committee makes no recommendations to the Legislative Council. Representative Grundberg asked if the Fiscal Committee exercises any oversight over the bonding, construction, and maintenance of student housing at the Regents institutions. Representative Millage responded that the State Board of Regents has the oversight responsibility for student housing. Senator Gronstal commented that the General Assembly could exercise oversight over student housing but has chosen not to do so. In reply to a question by Representative Van Maanen, Representative Millage expressed the belief that the Department of Human Services has the authority to transfer \$1.1 million from the Family Investment Program to State Supplementary Assistance and MI/MR state cases. Representative Millage moved that the Report of the Fiscal Committee be received and



filed. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Report of the Fiscal Committee is attached to these minutes.

11. Report of the Service Committee.

Representative Brent Siegrist reviewed the recommendations of the Service Committee regarding promotions and reclassifications within the Legislative Service Bureau, promotions in the Office of Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman, and other monthly personnel reports. He added that the Committee recommends approval of final negotiation of a contract with Election Data Services, Inc., FY 1999 budget proposal and FY 2000 budget proposals for technical redistricting consulting software and services, submitted by the central legislative staff agencies. He also stated that the Committee recommends the appointment of a personnel committee to review job classifications and salary structures for legislative employees. Concerning the membership of the personnel committee, Representative Siegrist moved that four legislators be appointed as members, one member each appointed by the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate and that the final report be submitted to the Service Committee during the 1999 interim period. The amendment was adopted. Representative Siegrist moved the adoption of the Report of the Service Committee as amended. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Report of the Service Committee is attached to these minutes.

12. Resolution – Gubernatorial Transition Expense.

Vice chairperson Corbett distributed a resolution supporting the need for the transfer of necessary funds within the executive branch to adequately fund the gubernatorial transition of Governor-elect Tom Vilsack. He stated that the appropriation of \$25,000 for transition expenses is not sufficient and that the Legislative Council should support intradepartmental or interdepartmental transfers of the funding to cover the necessary expenses for the gubernatorial transition. Vice chairperson Corbett moved adoption of the Legislative Council Resolution. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Resolution is attached to these minutes.

13. Report of the Oversight Committee.

Representative Libby Jacobs reported on the five meetings of the Oversight Committee held during the 1998 interim. The Committee addressed issues relating to the Year 2000 century date change programming progress audit for state agencies, correspondence to local governments on Year 2000 compliance, identification of options relating to the retention or disposition of the Iowa Communications Network, and discussion of Year 2000 liability issues. She stated that the Committee recommends the employment of Hitachi Data Systems to complete the Year 2000 programming progress audit for \$272,391 and recommends the acceptance of a proposal from Ultrapro International, Inc., to outline the ICN options at a contract price of \$73,900. She concluded by stating that the Committee plans to meet during the first week of the 1999 Legislative Session to receive an update on the Year 2000 project office, a progress report from the State Board



of Regents on its Year 2000 compliance progress, and a report on the ICN study. Senator Rod Halvorson questioned the need for a mailing to local governments concerning the Year 2000 problems. After discussion, Representative Libby Jacobs moved adoption of the Legislative Oversight Committee report and recommendations. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Senator Halvorson asked to be recorded as voting no. A copy of the Report of the Oversight Committee is attached to these minutes.

14. Chairperson Service Recognition.

Vice chairperson Corbett was recognized to present Chairperson Stewart Iverson, Jr., a plaque with attached gavel as a token of the appreciation of the members of the Legislative Council for his leadership during the 1997-1998 biennium. Chairperson Iverson thanked the members for the recognition and their cooperation during the biennium.

15. Attachments.

- a. Election Laws Supplement price.
- b. Interim Study Committee requests.
- c. Attorney General opinion – item veto.
- d. State Capitol historical exhibit request.
- e. Report of the Fiscal Committee.
- f. Report of the Service Committee.
- g. Legislative Council Resolution.
- h. Report of the Oversight Committee.

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