

MINUTES

STUDIES COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

July 20, 1994

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council for 1993-1994 was called to order by Chairperson Representative Mary Lundby at 1:10 p.m. on Wednesday, July 20, 1994, in Room 22 of the State Capitol Building in Des Moines, Iowa. Members present in addition to Chairperson Lundby were:

Senator Leonard Boswell
Senator Wally Horn
Senator Emil Husak
Senator Jim Lind
Senator Jack Rife
Representative Clifford Branstad
Representative Richard Vande Hoef

Also present were Senator Maggie Tinsman and staff members of the Legislative Service Bureau, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, members of caucus and research staffs, and other interested persons.

Chairperson Lundby noted that a quorum was present. Upon motion of Senator Husak, the minutes of the previous meeting held on June 15, 1994, were approved without dissent.

REQUESTS FOR INTERIM STUDIES

Chairperson Lundby moved to recommend the Legislative Council create a Child Protection Task Force as an interim study with the charge as contained in the proposal distributed to the members. Senator Husak expressed concern over why the proposal calls for the Department of Human Services to appoint the public members of the task force. Chairperson Lundby informed the Committee that the legislative leadership is concerned about the difficulties in appointing so many public members. She further noted that the leadership feels that the Department should appoint the public members since the Legislature approved an appropriation to the Department for this task force. Senator Husak then moved to amend the request for the task force and provide that the legislative leadership appoint the public members. Representative Branstad seconded the motion. Senator Rife sought clarification as

to the voting status of these public members. Chairperson Lundby's response was that they are presumed to be nonvoting unless the Legislative Council provides voting status for the public members. Senator Husak's motion carried with only Representative Vande Hoef voting no. Chairperson Lundby moved to recommend that the Legislative Council create the task force, as amended, as an interim study. Senator Husak seconded the motion and the recommendation, as amended, was approved unanimously.

Chairperson Lundby then referred to a letter sent by Representative Pat Murphy to the Legislative Council requesting approval of an additional interim study in the area of children's issues. Senator Husak wondered what the difference was between Representative Murphy's request and the Child Protection Task Force. The Committee then asked Mr. John Fairweather, Department of Human Services, to comment on the proposal. Mr. Fairweather indicated that the request from Representative Murphy is significantly broader in scope than the charge of the task force. Chairperson Lundby then indicated that the Committee would ask Representative Murphy to narrow his request and then, potentially, include it within the charge to the Child Protection Task Force at the September Studies Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the Committee adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWIN C. COOK
Legal Counsel