

## **MINUTES**

### **STUDIES COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**September 22, 1992**

#### **PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council was called to order by Chairperson Senator Wally Horn at 1:19 p.m. on Tuesday September 22, 1992, in Senate Room 22 of the State Capitol Building in Des Moines, Iowa. Members present in addition to Chairperson Horn were:

Speaker Bob Arnould, Vice Chairperson  
Senator Emil Husak  
Senator Jim Lind  
Senator Jack Rife  
Representative Clifford Branstad  
Representative Mary Lundby  
Representative Wayne McKinney, Jr.

Also present were staff members of the Legislative Service Bureau, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, and Research and Caucus staffs, and other interested persons.

It was moved that the Committee dispense with the reading of the minutes of the July 21, 1992, meeting and that the minutes be approved as previously distributed to the members. There being no discussion, the motion was adopted without objection.

#### **STUDY COMMITTEE REQUESTS**

The next items of business considered by the Committee were requests by the existing interim study committees and requests to establish new ones. The first request was that submitted on behalf of Ms. Myrt Levin, Chairperson, and the other members of the Tax Fairness and Equity Study Committee, requesting two additional meeting days and a change in the charge of the Committee to allow it to submit its recommendations by January 31, 1993. There being no discussion, the request was approved without objection.

The Committee next reviewed the report of Iowa's Medical Assistance Program Study Committee and approved unanimously its request for one additional meeting day to develop its final recommendations. The report of the Fiscal Committee made recommendations to the Legislative Council which were assigned to the Studies Committee for its consideration. The first was for authorization to expend up to \$35,000 for a study of Iowa State Fair renovations. Senator Rife commented that there is not a need for study since most people who attended the state fair know the facilities are in disrepair, especially the sheep barn which leaks. Speaker Arnould noted that the last study was 10 years ago and the estimate for

complete renovations is \$30 million. He then asked Representative Jochum, Co-chairperson of the Fiscal Committee, to state the reasons that the Fiscal Committee suggested this question be brought before the Studies Committee. Representative Jochum's response was that because of the magnitude of the cost of complete renovation of all facilities, there is a need to know which facilities should be renovated first and to establish priorities for all other facilities. Discussion was also held on whether the question of priority of renovations be reassigned to the Legislative Capitol Projects Committee. After further discussion on involvement of private business and the city of Des Moines, the Committee adopted the proposal to appoint a six-member study committee to solicit bids, not to exceed \$35,000, for a consultant to study renovations at the State Fairgrounds.

The second recommendation was for the Legislative Council to assign the subject matter of child support fees and rebates to the appropriate interim committee. Senator Rife suggested that whichever committee the subject was assigned should consider the publishing of names of delinquent payers in the newspaper as is done with delinquent property taxpayers. A motion was made to refer the subject matter of child support fees and rebates to the Review of Iowa's Medical Assistance Program Study Committee. Senator Lind proposed an amendment, which was adopted, for an invitation to be sent to fathers' rights groups to appear before the Study Committee. At Representative Jochum's suggestion the motion was further amended to also invite single parent child support obligees. Without further discussion, the motion was adopted.

Chairperson Horn observed that the Studies Committee members have received legislative appointments to the Brushy Creek Advisory Board in the packet for the meeting. He next informed the members that three new studies have been proposed. The first proposal is to amend the charge of the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations so that it will also review Iowa's tax increment financing laws and tax abatements and will coordinate with the Tax Fairness & Equity Study Committee in those areas. The second proposal is to establish a study committee to review state tourism programs. Both proposals were adopted without dissent.

The last proposed study was for a study committee on licensing and examining boards to review and make recommendations regarding health professions presently licensed and subject to examinations. Senator Lind moved to authorize two days for this study and suggested that the members include two public members who are familiar with government and the issues but are not government employees. Speaker Arnould suggested in lieu of two days that initially one day be authorized with the opportunity for the committee to request an additional meeting day. Senator Lind's motion as amended to allow only one day was approved.

The Studies Committee then authorized the leadership, in consultation with the minority leaders, to appoint the members to the new study committees.

A copy of the Studies Committee's report is attached to these minutes and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Senator Lind moved that the Committee adjourn, which it did at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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