

M I N U T E S
IOWA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

July 17, 1986

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The fourteenth meeting of the 1985-1986 Legislative Council was called to order by the Chairperson, Senator Bill Hutchins, at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 17, 1986, in Committee Room 22 of the State House, Des Moines, Iowa. Members present in addition to the Chairperson were:

Speaker Donald D. Avenson, Vice Chairperson
Senator C. Joseph Coleman
Senator Donald V. Doyle
Senator Beverly A. Hannon
Senator Lee Holt
Senator Calvin O. Hultman
Senator Dale L. Tieden
Senator James D. Wells
Representative Dorothy F. Carpenter
Representative Dale M. Cochran
Representative John H. Connors
Representative William H. Harbor
Representative Tom Jochum
Representative Lowell E. Norland
Representative Delwyn Stromer

Also present were:

Mr. Donovan Peeters, Director, Legislative Service Bureau
Mr. Dennis Prouty, Director, Legislative Fiscal Bureau
Mr. Sandy Scharf, Director, Computer Support Bureau
Mr. William Angrick, Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman
Mr. Burnette E. Koebernick, Deputy Director, Legislative Service Bureau
Mr. Thane R. Johnson, Senior Research Analyst, Legislative Service Bureau
Ms. Diane Bolender, Senior Research Analyst, Legislative Service Bureau

Also present were other legislative staff persons, representatives of the news media, and other interested persons.

Chairperson Hutchins stated that Senator Readinger had telephoned that although he had planned on being present at the Council meeting, it was not possible for him to attend and he asked to be excused.

Senator Hultman moved that the minutes of the June 18, 1986 meeting be approved as distributed to Council members, and the motion was adopted.

EDUCATIONAL LEAVE REPORT

Senator Hultman moved that the Educational Leave Report which had been distributed to Council members be received and filed. The motion was adopted.

FISCAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson Hutchins asked Senator Doyle to give the report of the Fiscal Committee in the absence of Senator Welsh, Chairperson. Senator Doyle stated that the Fiscal Committee met on July 10, 1986. A copy of the Fiscal Committee Report is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes. Senator Doyle moved that the Fiscal Committee Report be received and filed by the Legislative Council, and the motion was adopted.

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson Hutchins recognized Representative Connors for the report of the Service Committee. A copy of the report is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes. Representative Carpenter noted that the ninth recommendation of the Service Committee requests that the four leaders of the General Assembly meet with each of the legislative agency heads to discuss their performance and make recommendations for salary increases. She stated that she is pleased to see that recommendation and hopes that in the future the Service Committee might bring to the Legislative Council a formal process to be used for evaluation of agency heads. Representative Connors moved adoption of the Service Committee report, and the motion carried.

CAPITOL SPACE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson Hutchins called on Speaker Avenson, Co-Chairperson of the Capitol Space Allocation Committee, to give the Committee report. A copy of the Capitol Space Allocation Committee's report is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

Speaker Avenson stated that he has spoken with both the House and Senate Legal Counsels and with the Attorney General, and these individuals all believe that the law provides the General Assembly with the authority to allocate space in the Capitol. He stated that the priorities in a reallocation of Capitol space would

include providing adequate space for committee meetings that are accessible to the public and to provide adequate space for legislative staff in a safe environment with a rational use of the Capitol space. He commented that the Capitol Space Allocation Committee has scheduled its next meeting for July 24th (subsequently rescheduled for July 30) and has invited representatives from the Governor's office, the constitutional officers presently located in the Capitol, the courts, and the Director of General Services to be present at the meeting. He suggested that any moves of employees and state officers from the Capitol should take place at the same time that moves are taking place because of governmental reorganization. He stated that he hopes that any space reallocation can be completed in time for the 1987 legislative session.

Senator Holt stated that he strenuously objects to removing the constitutional officers from the Capitol. He commented that he believes that the State House belongs to the people of Iowa and it would be a mistake to move the constitutional officers out of the Capitol. He questioned whether additional space is needed by the General Assembly. Speaker Avenson responded that many of the beautiful interior decorations of the Capitol building are located in private offices occupied by individual officeholders, and these offices are not accessible to the general public at the present time. He stated that the House staff is located in dangerous areas of the Capitol and he does not want to jeopardize their safety. He asked Council members to view the offices of the constitutional officers and note that they are not open to the general public. Chairperson Hutchins noted that the constitutional officers have been invited to attend the next meeting of the Space Allocation Committee on July 24th and make presentations. Speaker Avenson also asked Council members to tour areas presently occupied by General Assembly staff and see the fire hazards and the overcrowded conditions.

Senator Tieden stated that he seconded some of Senator Holt's comments but is also concerned about dangerous conditions for legislative employees. He suggested that the Legislative Council determine whether some control over overcrowding could be handled by the General Assembly itself. Senator Tieden stated that he opposes providing additional private offices for legislators and opposes moving the constitutional officers out of the Capitol. Speaker Avenson responded that he is not proposing additional office space for legislators themselves, but he also believes it is not adequate that members of the General Assembly have as offices only their floor desks. He expressed the belief that relocation from the Capitol can be most cost-effective when these moves are coupled with moves taking place because of governmental reorganization, and at the same time legislative staff can be housed in a safe environment.

Representative Harbor asked about the costs connected with the moves in the Capitol, and suggested that Mr. Walters provide estimates to the Space Allocation Committee. He suggested that moving legislative staff is not that imperative a need and perhaps waiting for an additional year might be advantageous. Speaker Avenson responded that Mr. Walters will be present at the next meeting and will discuss costs of the move. He explained that delaying the moves will be more costly since other moves are currently taking place due to governmental reorganization.

Representative Connors noted that he and Representative Stromer have tried for a number of years to provide adequate fire escape avenues for legislative employees but because of the aesthetics of the building, fire escapes have not been installed. Representative Stromer commented space for legislative staff and not to find space for additional offices for legislators. He also expressed the belief that additional committee rooms are needed in order to open the process for the citizens.

Speaker Avenson moved the adoption of the Capitol Space Allocation Committee's report, and the motion carried.

RULES FOR PREFILING

Mr. Koebernick asked for approval of proposed rules for prefiling legislative bills for the 1987 legislative session. Copies of the prefiling rules may be obtained from the Legislative Service Bureau. Mr. Koebernick pointed out that the deadlines for requests for prefiling have been changed, and they provide that members of the General Assembly may prefile legislative bills by making a request not later than December 19, 1986; proposed bills and resolutions of state departments and agencies must be submitted to the Legislative Service Bureau no later than November 26, 1986. Senator Hultman moved the adoption of the proposed prefiling rules, and the motion carried.

STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson Hutchins recognized Speaker Avenson for the report of the Studies Committee. A copy of the Studies Committee Report is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes. Speaker Avenson also included the following as part of the Studies Committee Report:

1. The Prison Cap Study Committee will consist of 5 members from each house with 3 authorized meeting days.
2. The Pari-mutuel Racing Study Committee will consist of 5 members from each house with 2 authorized meeting days.
3. The Private Nursery Study Committee will consist of 5 members from each house with 1 authorized meeting day.

4. The Grain Storage Study Committee will consist of 5 members from each house with 2 authorized meeting days.

Representative Stromer asked that the contract entered into by the Legislative Council with the Prosecuting Attorney's Research Council concerning Iowa's OWI laws be approved by the Legislative Council. Speaker Avenson responded that it is intended that the contract be brought back to the Council at its next meeting.

Senator Tieden complimented the Studies Committee on taking action on the telecommunications issue, as provided in No. 5 of the Studies Committee Report. Speaker Avenson stated that the proposed study is not a criticism of Iowa Public Television, but the General Assembly should remain abreast of developments in this area and provide the appropriate legislation. Senator Hultman suggested that the committee consist of both citizens and legislators. Speaker Avenson responded that the leadership will keep that request in mind when selecting the membership of the task force. He asked for and received approval by the Council for the membership named by the leadership.

Speaker Avenson also commented that Dr. John Fuller of the Legislative Extended Assistance Group announced to the Studies Committee that additional money has been provided by the Northwest Area Foundation, and Speaker Avenson asked Legislative Council members to make suggestions to him for research projects that they would like conducted.

Representative Cochran, noting that the recommendation is to discontinue the Alternative Crops and Livestock Study, asked that perhaps some of the additional LEAG moneys could be used to study the livestock industry in Iowa. Speaker Avenson commented that he will transmit that information to Dr. Fuller. Representative Stromer commented that LEAG had provided money for a study of the livestock industry two years ago and that report was completed in February, 1985. He added that the General Assembly has not enacted any of its recommendations. Representative Cochran suggested that more in-depth study of the conditions facing the livestock industry in Iowa needs to be conducted. The Director of the Legislative Service Bureau was instructed to write to Dr. Fuller of the LEAG program to inquire about development of a LEAG study in regard to this matter. Speaker Avenson moved adoption of the Studies Committee report, and the motion carried.

NATIONAL GUARD TRIP TO HONDURAS

Chairperson Hutchins stated that Council members have received a report prepared by the Headquarters of the Iowa National Guard concerning the conditions that the National Guard will face when it travels to Honduras for training. He commented that Council members have also received a report written by four members of the

General Assembly, including Senator Hannon, a member of the Legislative Council, who just returned from two weeks in Honduras. He noted that the legislators are available for discussions with Council members, and they have requested a meeting with Governor Branstad.

CHILD SUPPORT RECOVERY STUDY

Representative Connors asked about the provision of House File 2484 relating to child support recovery. Chairperson Hutchins commented that the law contains procedures for child support recovery, and the Legislative Council does not have the authority to make any changes. He suggested that the Department of Human Services representatives can attend the next Legislative Council meeting to make comments if Representative Connors desires. Representative Carpenter commented that Ms. Chris Ill, Bureau of Collections, Department of Human Services, made a report to the Legislative Fiscal Committee at its July 10th meeting.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL APPROVAL RELATING TO CODE PUBLICATION

Mr. Peeters commented that approval of the Legislative Council is required for decisions relating to printing the Session Laws. A copy of the information concerning printing of the Session Laws was distributed to Council members and may be obtained from the Legislative Service Bureau. Mr. Peeters noted that minor changes in the Session Laws are being proposed that will reduce the number of pages in the Session Laws and thereby reduce printing costs. Senator Hultman moved that the Legislative Council approve the proposal as submitted by Mr. Peeters, and the motion carried.

LOTTERY MONEY ALLOCATION

Representative Stromer commented that he has heard criticism of the manner in which lottery money is being allocated by the Department of Economic Development. Chairperson Hutchins commented that the Legislative Fiscal Committee had invited Mr. Doug Getter from the Iowa Lottery Agency to attend its last meeting and Mr. Getter will be returning to meet with the Fiscal Committee again. Chairperson Hutchins commented that he has voiced criticism to the Economic Development Board regarding its allocation of lottery money. Representative Harbor stated that he does not want the allocation of funds to become political, but the allocations should be based upon the economic advantage to the state. It was noted that two of the first grants given by the Economic Development Board were to Teleconnect and Iowa Beef Processors and not to any small town industries. Chairperson Hutchins expressed hope that in the future the dollars will be spent on as broad a basis as possible.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of the
Legislative Council was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANE BOLENDER
Senior Research Analyst