

MINUTES

STUDIES COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

January 10, 1991

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council met on January 10, 1991, in Room 22 of the State Capitol, Des Moines, Iowa. Acting Chairperson Senator Hutchins called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m. Members present in addition to Acting Chairperson Hutchins were:

Senator C. Joseph Coleman
Senator Emil Husak
Senator John Jensen
Senator John N. Nystrom
Representative Bob Arnould
Representative John Connors
Representative Mary Lundby

Motions were made to dispense with the roll call and approve the minutes of the November 15, 1990, meeting. The motions were adopted without dissent.

REQUESTS FOR THE COMMITTEE

Acting Chairperson Hutchins noted that a number of requests had been received by the Committee and that they are contained in a packet distributed at the start of the meeting. Copies of materials in the packet are available upon request at the Legislative Service Bureau.

The Committee considered a request by the Mental Illness Funding Formula Study Committee to recommend that the Legislative Council approve an extension of the deadline for filing a final report by the Study Committee. Senator Coleman made a motion to recommend that the Mental Illness Funding Formula Study Committee delay submitting its final report until the Study Committee has considered a bill draft of its recommended funding formula. The Committee approved the motion without dissent.

The Committee considered a request by Professor Dr. John W. Fuller, who is a professor at the University of Iowa. Dr. Fuller requested that the Legislative Council authorize the expenditure of \$500 for the printing and distribution of a report entitled *State Air Service Planning* prepared by Dr. Fuller for the Air Link Transportation Commission. Representative Arnould moved that the request be denied and recommended that a more cost effective manner be found to print the report. The motion was adopted without dissent.

PRESENTATION BY MS. MYRT LEVIN

Senator Hutchins recognized Ms. Myrt Levin of the Iowa Business Council who provided testimony regarding a report presented to the Supercomputer Interim Study Committee. Ms. Levin explained that the report was prepared by a committee representing computer experts from the state's universities, private colleges, and businesses. According to Ms. Levin, Iowa does not currently have a base to support supercomputer facilities. The Committee, according to Ms. Levin, recommends that the state invest in enhancing computer systems in Iowa's educational and business facilities. She stated that the Committee recommends the establishment of a supercomputer commission to coordinate funding of supercomputer initiatives and reduce administrative duplication. Ms. Levin stated that the Committee recommends the adoption of a four point plan which includes establishing workstations at educational facilities, supporting access to national or international supercomputer systems, purchasing a mini-supercomputer, and supporting telecommunication infrastructure to ensure computer communications networking.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered a request submitted by Senator John Kibbie and Representative Gene Blanshan who serve as Co-chairpersons of the Public Employees Retirement Systems Study Committee. Senator Kibbie and Representative Blanshan request the Studies Committee recommend that the Legislative Council endorse an amendment to legislation adopted last year to delay the date for completion of an actuarial study relating to the retirement systems for public safety peace officers, police officers, and firefighters. Senator Nystrom moved for a motion to approve the recommendation to endorse legislation requiring the study be submitted to the General Assembly not later than December 1, 1991, that the change should be made retroactively to November 30, 1990, and the legislation become effective immediately upon enactment. The motion was approved without objection.

The Studies Committee considered a request by the Legislative Fiscal Committee to recommend funding a study conducted by Iowa Protection and Advocacy Services, Inc. to monitor the implementation of federal legislation relating to care of persons who are mentally ill or who have developmental disabilities, assisting care review committees and residents of health care and treatment facilities, and preparing a report to the General Assembly relating to the care of mentally ill or developmentally disabled residents. Representative Arnould moved that the request be deferred for consideration by the Studies Committee following appointment of new members. The motion was approved without dissent.

The Studies Committee considered a request by the MediPASS Oversight Study Committee to recommend that Legislative Council authorize continuation of the Study Committee's work. Representative Connors moved to recommend that legislative oversight of the implementation of MediPASS be continued by legislators appointed by the leadership of the General Assembly. The motion was approved without dissent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Studies Committee adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DOUGLAS ADKISSON
Legal Counsel

2610lc
DA/dg