



Legislative  
Service  
Bureau

# MINUTES

## IOWA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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June 2, 1999

First Meeting of the 1999-2000 Biennium

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### MEMBERS PRESENT

Speaker Brent Siegrist, Chairperson	
Senator Stewart Iverson, Jr., Vice Chairperson	
Senator Patrick J. Deluhery	Representative Chuck Gipp
Senator Tom Flynn	Representative Betty Grundberg
Senator Michael Gronstal	Representative Pam Jochum
Senator Johnnie Hammond	Representative Dolores Mertz
Senator John Jensen	Representative David Millage
Senator Mary Kramer	Representative Pat Murphy
Senator Derryl McLaren	Representative Christopher Rants
Senator Don Redfern	Representative David Schrader
Representative John Connors	Representative Steven Sukup

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## MEETING IN BRIEF

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1. **Procedural Business.**
  2. **Iowa Supreme Court Rules.**
  3. **Report of the Service Committee.**
  4. **Report of the Studies Committee.**
  5. **Legislative E-mail – User Guidelines.**
  6. **Gubernatorial Task Forces – Legislator Compensation.**
  7. **Attachments.**
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### COMMITTEE BUSINESS

#### 1. **Procedural Business.**

**Call to Order.** The first meeting of the 1999-2000 Legislative Council was called to order by Temporary Chairperson Brent Siegrist at 2:05 p.m., Wednesday, June 2, 1999, in the House of Representatives Chamber, State Capitol, Des Moines, Iowa.

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**Election of Officers.** Senator Michael E. Gronstal moved that Temporary Chairperson Brent Siegrist and Temporary Vice Chairperson Stewart Iverson, Jr., be elected Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, respectively, of the 1999-2000 Legislative Council. There being no further nominations, the motion was adopted unanimously.

**Legislative Council Committee Membership List.** Chairperson Siegrist noted that a list of the membership of the Legislative Council committees has been distributed to each Council member. Representative David Millage questioned the role the Capital Projects Committee if its responsibilities are performed by a four-member work group as occurred during the last biennium. He suggested that more than four persons should be involved in the Committee's duties. Representative Chuck Gipp responded that the legislative space utilization study project overseen by the work group is complete and the full Committee will be involved if further steps are taken regarding the study's recommendations. It was also noted that the Capital Projects Committee is a statutory committee. After further discussion, Representative Christopher Rants moved that the Legislative Council Committee membership list be received and filed. The motion was adopted without objection. A copy of the membership list is attached to these minutes.

**Rules of Procedure.** Chairperson Siegrist asked the Council members to review the proposed rules of procedure which have been distributed. No changes were offered. Senator Gronstal moved that the proposed rules of procedure be adopted as permanent rules of the 1999-2000 Legislative Council. The motion was adopted unanimously. A copy of the Rules of Procedure is attached to these minutes.

**Adjournment.** Vice Chairperson Iverson moved that the Legislative Council meeting adjourn at 2:30 p.m. The motion was adopted.

**Next Meeting Date.** Chairperson Siegrist scheduled the next meeting for Wednesday, June 30, 1999. Committee meetings will be announced.

## 2. Iowa Supreme Court Rules.

Chairperson Siegrist recognized Joe McEniry, Legal Counsel, Legislative Service Bureau, for an explanation of amendments to the Rules of Criminal Procedure No. 6 and No. 21 submitted by the Iowa Supreme Court. Mr. McEniry stated that the amendments change the word "firearm" to "dangerous weapon" in response to a legislative change to Code section 902.7, which requires a mandatory minimum sentence of five years for committing a forcible felony with a "dangerous weapon." He added that the chairpersons of the Committees on Judiciary have been informed of the proposed change and have no objection. Senator Gronstal moved that the Legislative Council receive and file, without objection, the report of the rule changes submitted by the Iowa Supreme Court. The motion was adopted. A copy of the report is filed with the Legislative Service Bureau and attached to these minutes.



### **3. Report of the Service Committee.**

Vice Chairperson Iverson reviewed the actions, discussions, and recommendations of the Service Committee. He stated that the Committee recommends that the Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman be authorized to proceed with the sale of case management software, that the Legislative Service Bureau be authorized to carry forward \$50,000 from fiscal year 1998-1999 to fiscal year 1999-2000 for publication of the Fourth Edition of the Iowa Court Rules, and that the President of the Senate appoint one Senator from the Senate Majority Caucus to serve on a special personnel committee to review legislative job classifications and salary structures. There were no comments. Vice Chairperson Iverson moved the adoption of the Report of the Service Committee. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Report is attached to these minutes.

### **4. Report of the Studies Committee.**

Vice Chairperson Iverson also reviewed the discussion and recommendations of the Studies Committee. He stated the Committee recommends six additional meeting days for the Sentencing Commission and that the Child Welfare Services Work Group and the Public Retirement Systems are continued. He added that the Campaign Finance Commission and the Legislative Council's review and approval of design and location proposals for an Iowa Hall of Pride are mandated studies or review items. He stated that the Committee also recommends authorization for the School Finance Working Committee to continue its study during the 1999 interim, including authorization for five meeting days, and include recommendations for funding of alternative high school programs. He concluded by stating that additional study proposals will be considered by the Committee at its next meeting. In response to a question by Representative Pam Jochum, Vice Chairperson Iverson stated that the Committee did not discuss funding for the Campaign Finance Commission study. Senator Derryl McLaren moved adoption of the Report of the Studies Committee. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Report is attached to these minutes.

### **5. Legislative E-mail – User Guidelines.**

Senator Tom Flynn stated that the Legislative Council should establish guidelines or standards with regard to chain mailings and outrageous content for users of the E-mail feature on the legislative computer system. He requested that the Legislative Computer Support Bureau make pertinent recommendations regarding such guidelines or standards. He stated that he has received E-mail messages on the legislative system which were inappropriate. Representative Rants commented that perhaps each house should establish E-mail user policies because of the current separate chamber policies concerning laptop computer use and telephone use, as examples. Senator Flynn stated that he has no objection to separate policies as long as guidelines for proper use are established. After discussion and in reply to a comment by Chairperson Siegrist, Mr. Sanford Scharf, Director, Legislative Computer Support Bureau, stated that he would provide suggestions to legislators relating to E-mail use standards or guidelines by the next meeting of the Council.



## **6. Gubernatorial Task Forces – Legislator Compensation.**

Representative Millage asked what the Council policy is regarding compensation and expense reimbursement for legislators who are invited or appointed to serve on gubernatorial task force studies such as the Strategic Planning Council established by Governor Thomas J. Vilsack. Chairperson Siegrist commented that he is unaware of a Council policy regarding compensation or reimbursement for legislative members of these gubernatorial study task forces. Vice Chairperson Iverson stated that Senate leadership has provided compensation for this type of legislative service through the Senate budget. Senator Gronstal moved that the Legislative Council temporarily authorize per diem and expense reimbursement for legislators appointed to gubernatorial task forces until the Council's next meeting. Representative David Schrader stated that legislators should be given the same compensation and expense reimbursement for gubernatorial task forces or studies as provided for interim legislative studies. Senator Patrick Deluhery suggested that authorization for compensation and expenses should be limited to those appointments authorized or approved by the legislative leaders. After further discussion, Senator Gronstal's motion was amended to strike "temporary", to authorize per diem and expenses for legislators appointed to gubernatorial task forces or studies with approval of legislative leaders, and to fund the per diem and expenses as a joint expense of the Legislative Council. The Gronstal motion, as amended, was adopted.

## **7. Attachments.**

- a. Legislative Council Committee Membership.
- b. Legislative Council Rules of Procedure.
- c. Iowa Supreme Court Rules Report.
- d. Report of the Service Committee.
- e. Report of the Studies Committee.