

M I N U T E S

STUDIES COMMITTEE

November 9, 1983

The meeting of the Studies Committee of the Legislative Council was called to order by the Studies Committee Chairman, Senator Lowell L. Junkins, at 10:10 a.m., Wednesday, November 9, 1983 in Committee Room 22 of the State House, Des Moines, Iowa. Members present in addition to Senator Junkins were:

Senator James E. Briles
Senator C. W. Hutchins
Senator Charles P. Miller
Speaker Donald D. Avenson
Representative Jean Lloyd-Jones
Representative Lester Menke
Representative Lowell E. Norland

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

Chairman Junkins stated that the minutes of the October 12, 1983 meeting have been previously distributed and asked for corrections or additions to the minutes. Representative Menke moved that the minutes be approved as distributed. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Chairman Junkins noted that the Committee is in receipt of a letter from Mr. Thomas N. Urban, Chairman of the Excellence in Education Task Force, requesting that additional meeting days be granted for the Task Force. Speaker Avenson suggested that eight additional days be approved for the Task Force and noted that this Task Force consisting of seven qualified members has found 50 well qualified people who have volunteered their time to serve on various subcommittees established by the Task Force and commended the members of the Task Force for their efforts. Senator Hutchins moved that eight additional meeting days be approved for the Excellence in Education Task Force. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously.

Chairman Junkins indicated that the Legislative Fiscal Committee has previously recommended a number of days for each visitation committee. This recommendation of the Fiscal Committee was not approved by the Studies Committee and the Legislative Council. Because of time constraints and the need to begin review of the 1984-1985 budget, the Legislative Fiscal Committee has recommended that a six-member committee of each of the budget subcommittees be authorized to begin this process. He noted that one exception is the Corrections and Mental Health Subcommittee where an eight-member committee is recommended. Each of the subcommittees would be authorized two meeting days except that the Natural Resources Subcommittee would be authorized one meeting day. He suggested that the two additional members recommended for the Corrections/Mental Health Subcommittee would consist of the Senate

Committee on Judiciary Chairman and the House Committee on Judiciary and Law Enforcement Chairman. He further noted that the Studies Committee has received a letter from Senator Charles Bruner and Representative Janet Carl, Co-chairs of the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee, requesting that in lieu of a six-member interim committee with two days of meetings authorized, that the full membership of the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee be authorized one meeting day to consider the work before it. Speaker Avenson moved that the Transportation and Law Enforcement Appropriations Subcommittee, the Education Appropriation Subcommittee, and the Human Resources Appropriations Subcommittee, each be authorized two meeting days, that the Corrections/Mental Health Appropriations Subcommittee consist of an eight-member committee and be authorized two meeting days, that the Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee be authorized one meeting day, and that the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee be authorized one meeting day for the entire Committee. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously.

Chairman Junkins recognized Mr. Garrison regarding the payment of per diem and expenses for legislators giving final reports to the Legislative Council. Mr. Garrison stated that interim committee reports are normally submitted in December to the Legislative Council. In the past, the Legislative Council has authorized per diem to the Chairman or other member of the Committee who comes in to make that report to the Legislative Council and suggested that this authority be provided for reports to be provided to the Legislative Council in December, 1983. Speaker Avenson moved that one day's per diem be authorized to one member of a subcommittee or study committee who presents the report to the Legislative Council. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Chairman Junkins stated that the members of the Studies Committee have a letter in their possession from Senator Rodgers and Representative Phil Davitt requesting an extensive investigation of the Iowa School for the Deaf. The areas of concern from reports received by Senator Rodgers and Representative Davitt indicate possible age and sex discrimination, lack of credibility in purchasing and inventory controls, unusual rate of growth in budget, and suppression of parent-teacher communications. Chairman Junkins noted that he has discussed this problem with the Citizens' Aide office and recommends that the investigation be conducted by the Citizens' Aide office and the Studies Committee further authorize the employment and use of interpreters in the conduct of the investigation. Speaker Avenson so moved, the motion was seconded, and adopted on a voice vote.

There being no further business, the meeting of the Studies Committee was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNETTE E. KOEBERNICK
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