

M I N U T E S

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEETING NO. 1
July 8, 1975

The Legislative Fiscal Committee of the Legislative Council met in the Legislative Fiscal Bureau Conference Room on July 8, 1975. The meeting was called to order by Representative Dunton, Co-chairman, at 10:10 a.m. Present were:

Representative Dunton
Senator Palmer
Seantor DeKoster
Senator Nystrom
Senator Van Gilst
Senator Willits
Representative Den Herder
Representative Jesse
Representative Middleswart
Representative Welden

Present from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau were Gerry Rankin, David Bolender, Dennis Prouty, Ethan Towne, Eric Smith and Nona Livingston.

The first item of business was to consider proposed rules to be used by the Legislative Fiscal Committee of the 66th General Assembly. In accordance with those rules Representative Dunton, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, would serve as Chairman during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, and Senator Palmer, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, would be Chairman for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977. In answer to a question concerning proxy votes, it was agreed that the members of the committee must be present to register a vote in the committee. It was also agreed that a simple majority of six members could change the committee rules.

Representative Den Herder moved that the rules be adopted as proposed. The motion was seconded by Senator DeKoster and passed unanimously.

Chairman Dunton said that the main purpose of the meeting of the Fiscal Committee this date is to determine the method of procedure of the visitation committees and to make some preliminary determination as to the course of action of the Fiscal Committee during this interim period. The director of the Fiscal Bureau distributed copies of the Code sections pertaining to the duties and responsibilities of the Fiscal Committee and the visitation committees.

After discussion of various possibilities that the visitation committees might consider, the following action was taken. Senator DeKoster moved that the chairman of the Fiscal Committee request of the Legislative Council that

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the Fiscal Committee be given authority to proceed with approval of its own instate travel and that it further be given authority to approve meetings of the visitation committees with the agreement that the chairman of the Fiscal Committee will report to the Council August 20, 1975, the agenda of the visitation committees for the current interim period. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Chairman Dunton announced the following liaison member assignments from the Fiscal Committee to the Visitation Committees: Senator Van Gilst - Education; Senator Willits - State Departments; Senator Nystrom - Transportation; Representative Den Herder - Human Resources; Representative Welden - Natural Resources.

Concerning the activities of the Fiscal Committee, it was the consensus that the Fiscal Bureau should proceed with a continuing study of the Iowa appropriations process. It was pointed out by the Fiscal Director that the Council of State Governments has completed a study of the appropriations process and that a report was made to the Legislative Council in the fall of 1974 incorporating some of those recommendations as well as numerous others. A copy of that completed study will be furnished to the members of the Fiscal Committee.

The committee discussed the appropriations process for the second session of the 66th General Assembly. The two chairmen of the appropriations committees expressed a desire to hold the necessary appropriations hearings prior to the convening of the second session so that the majority of the appropriation bills may be prepared and ready for immediate consideration.

The committee agreed that a request should be made of the Council at a later date to authorize the full subcommittees on appropriations to meet for budget hearings.

The Fiscal Director reported on progress being made to audit the Area Education Agencies by the Department of Public Instruction as requested by the General Assembly. He said that an audit program is currently being prepared to specifically answer a number of questions raised by the General Assembly. It is intended that these audits will take place during the next three months and that a report can be prepared for the Fiscal Committee and the Legislative Council during November.

Mr. Bolender reported on the study of the A.D.C. - Study of Need. That study is now in its first phase and a report will be ready by September. It is hoped that the second phase of the study can proceed as proposed.

Representative Dunton moved that the members of the Fiscal Committee not previously authorized to attend the Midwestern Conference of the Council of State Governments at Lake Okoboji, August 3-6, 1975, be authorized to attend.

The next meeting of the fiscal committee will be held August 19 at 1:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned.