

MINUTES

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

July 21, 1992

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The July 21, 1992, meeting of the Administration Committee was held in Room 1 of the Statehouse and was called to order by Chairperson Representative Mike Peterson at 11:55 p.m. Members present in addition to Chairperson Peterson were:

Senator Donald Doyle
Senator Dale L. Tieden
Representative William Harbor

The Committee approved the minutes of the June 18, 1992, meeting.

TESTIMONY AND DISCUSSION

Chairperson Peterson thanked members for attending the meeting. He recognized Mr. Richard Johnson, Deputy Director of the Legislative Service Bureau, who briefly described activities regarding the computerization of the Administrative Code and a report prepared by the consultant, MMA Consultants Incorporated. A copy of the report is on file with the Legislative Service Bureau. Mr. Johnson described various approaches and costs associated with the project and possible executive branch participation in the process. According to Mr. Johnson, the report recommends that a request for proposal be issued.

Mr. Johnson introduced Ms. Loanne Dodge, recently appointed Iowa Code Editor. Ms. Dodge described costs associated with the publication and distribution of the 1993 Iowa Code. A copy of information submitted by Ms. Dodge is attached to these minutes. Ms. Dodge described the process of reorganizing the Code by renumbering several chapters and expanding the numbers of titles and subtitles. She discussed with members distribution dates for the 1993 Iowa Acts and the 1993 Iowa Code. She also discussed the price of hardbound and softbound versions and the production costs of each.

Mr. Mark Johnson, Legislative Service Bureau, discussed sales of the Code's electronic database. He noted that the Society of Iowa Land Surveyors plans to contact him regarding a decision to purchase several chapters. Mr. Johnson also stated that Mr. Carl Nielsen, Executive Director of the Iowa State Bar Association, expressed interest in purchasing the entire electronic database for purposes of producing and distributing the Code on compact disc. According to Mr. Johnson, Mr. Nielsen has not made an offer, but might be interested in

conducting a survey to determine the level of interest in the membership of the Association after determining the cost of producing the disc. Mr. Nielsen did state that the Association should not be charged more than the amount charged to Mead Data (currently \$12,500 per year). Members of the Committee discussed the potential impact to the sales of the printed version of the Code resulting from the sale of compact discs by the Association. It was anticipated that the Bar Association proposal would have a negative impact upon revenue generated by the sale of the hardbound version. Members discussed the policy of recouping the costs of publication and distribution of the printed Iowa Code. Several members suggested that the Committee explore the feasibility of the state producing and distributing a compact disc version.

Chairperson Peterson moved that the Legislative Council direct the Legislative Service Bureau to continue negotiations with the Iowa State Bar Association concerning the sale of the electronic code database, and that any agreement be submitted to the Administration Committee for final review and recommendation to the Legislative Council. The motion passed without objection. The Legislative Service Bureau was directed to consider the Council's policy of recouping the costs of publication and distribution of the printed Iowa Code in negotiating the contract price.

Chairperson Peterson recognized Mr. David Boyd, Iowa Supreme Court. Mr. Boyd discussed the free publication of the Code to courts. He noted that the court system is the largest free customer and that the Supreme Court is improving its coordination and tracking of distribution.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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