

# M I N U T E S

## STUDIES COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

August 8, 1978

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council was called to order by Senator C. Joseph Coleman, Co-chairperson presiding, at 10:50 a.m., Tuesday, August 8, 1978 in Senate Committee Room 22 of the State House. Members present in addition to Senator Coleman were:

Senator Fred Nolting  
Senator Richard Ramsey  
Speaker Dale M. Cochran  
Representative Floyd Millen  
Representative Andrew Varley

Also attending were: Director Serge Garrison and Senior Research Analyst Thane R. Johnson of the Legislative Service Bureau and a number of additional legislative staff members and other interested persons.

Co-chairperson Coleman stated that the purpose of the meeting is to review the membership recommendations of the respective Committee chairpersons and make a recommendation to the Legislative Council. He stated that the Committee has the authority to change the membership assignments where disparities in the number of subcommittee appointments of individual legislators require adjustments. Representative Millen noted that a number of the subcommittee appointments are incomplete and that the suggested appointments to the Products Liability Study should be adjusted to provide for bi-partisan House membership.

Upon Co-chairperson Coleman's suggestion the Committee proceeded to review the membership of each joint subcommittee separately.

After review of the Joint Subcommittee on Grain Deposit and Handling and the Joint Subcommittee on Young Farmers Loan Program, the Committee suggested no change to the membership recommended by the Chairpersons of the Committees on Agriculture.

Before continuing to the Joint Subcommittee on Urban Revitalization, Co-chairperson Coleman recognized Speaker Cochran for a motion. Speaker Cochran moved that the Studies Committee recommend the creation of a study relating to Nuclear Power Plant Operations, a Joint Subcommittee composed of five members of each house with an authorization of three meeting days. Speaker Cochran stated he is asking the Studies Committee to consider this additional study before reviewing the remaining joint subcommittee

memberships so that any necessary membership adjustments can be made. He also stated that two objectives of the study should be the review of potentially hazardous conditions at nuclear power plants and the potential uses for the heat generated by the operation of these plants. Representative Millen stated that he has previously objected to the creation of this Subcommittee because the primary objective appeared to be a safety inspection of the Palo Nuclear Power Plant which no one in the General Assembly is qualified to do. He added that a study emphasizing potential uses of excess heat generated by the power facilities is another question which may be worth examining. Co-chairperson Coleman stated that the problem of heat dissipation at nuclear power plant facilities should be examined in respect to the amount of water needed to operate a nuclear reactor and the potential for the use of the heat for other purposes such as grain alcohol production. In response to a question by Senator Nolting, Co-chairperson Coleman stated that the emphasis of the Joint Subcommittee should be on the problem of heat dissipation from the nuclear power plant facilities and potential uses of the heat for other productive purposes. Senator Ramsey questioned the need for a study relating to nuclear power plant operations, suggesting that legislation is not needed to promote this type of project. Representative Varley commented that the General Assembly can act as a catalyst by examining the possible use of heat generated by nuclear power facilities as an alternative to constructing expensive cooling towers to dissipate the heat. He stated that the Coal Research Project funded by the General Assembly is a good example of what the General Assembly can do to promote research and development.

After further discussion, Speaker Cochran's motion carried by a vote of four ayes and two nays. In response to a question by Senator Ramsey, Co-chairperson Coleman stated that in the absence of any Committee rules to the contrary, a majority of the quorum present is sufficient to adopt Speaker Cochran's motion.

In response to a comment by Representative Millen that three meeting days is not sufficient to conduct a thorough study, Speaker Cochran suggested that more days could be granted by the Legislative Council at a later date if the Joint Subcommittee shows the need for additional meetings.

Following further discussion, the following membership was recommended:

House members: Svoboda, Chairperson, Hullinger,  
Binneboese, Welden, Evans.

Senate members: Gallagher, Chairperson, Coleman,  
Priebe, Hansen, Ramsey.

Concerning the membership of the Joint Subcommittee on Urban Revitalization, Mr. Garrison commented that there appears to be a misunderstanding relating to the standing committees from which House members are to be chosen. He added that it is his

understanding that the House members are to be chosen from the Committee on Cities and the Senate members from the Committee on Cities and the Committee on Ways and Means. He added that Representative Norland apparently misunderstood and has appointed two members from the House Committee on Ways and Means. After discussion, it was a concensus of the Committee that the five members of the House are to be chosen from the Committee on Cities. There being no objection, Co-chairperson Coleman instructed the staff to remove the recommended appointees from the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Concerning the membership of the Joint Subcommittee on Product Liability, Representative Millen noted that all of the House members from the Committees on Commerce and Labor and Industrial Relations are democrats. He stated that it was previously agreed that the Subcommittee membership would be bipartisan. After further discussion, Senator Nolting recommended that he and Senator Murray replace Senator Robinson and Senator Nystrom. There being no objection, the change was made. There being no agreement on the House membership for the Joint Subcommittee, further discussion of the House membership was deferred.

Concerning the Joint Subcommittee on Share Drafts, it was agreed that Senator Palmer should replace Senator Rodgers because Senator Rodgers has three other Subcommittee assignments.

After review of the Joint Subcommittee on proposed changes in the School Aid Formula, Co-chairperson Coleman recommended that Senator Hutchins replace Senator Scott because Senator Scott has three other subcommittee assignments. There being no objections, the recommended change was made.

After review of the Senate Subcommittee on Hazardous Waste and the Joint Subcommittee on Resource Recovery, the membership was accepted as recommended by the respective Chairpersons of the Committees on Energy.

After discussion of the membership of the Joint Subcommittee on State Mental Health Agency Structure, the Committee accepted the recommendation of Senator Ramsey that Senator Craft should replace Senator Calhoon. Speaker Cochran read a letter from Representative Walter and Representative Lonergan requesting seven authorized meeting days in lieu of three previously approved. He stated that Representative Lonergan and Representative Walter expressed the desire that the Joint Subcommittee hold five regional public hearings before holding two additional study meetings to consider testimony received at the public hearings. After further discussion, the Committee agreed to recommend five authorized meeting days in lieu of three.

After review of the Joint Subcommittee on Juvenile Services and the Impact of the Juvenile Justice Law, the Joint Subcommittee on Judicial Apportionment Formula, the Joint

Subcommittee on Penal and Correctional Institutions and County Jails Study, the Joint Subcommittee on Mandatory Retirement, the Joint Subcommittee on Water Laws Study, and the House Subcommittee on Reorganization of the Department of Environmental Quality, the Committee recommended no change to the membership designated by the respective chairpersons.

Concerning the Joint Subcommittee on Public Employees Retirement System, the Committee recommended that Representative Woods replace Representative Arnould on the Joint Subcommittee.

The Committee made no change in the membership of the Joint Subcommittee on Distribution of Secondary Road and Farm-to-Market Road Fund.

On the Joint Subcommittee on Property Tax Study, the Committee agreed to replace Representative Daggett with Representative Schnekloth.

On the Joint Subcommittee on Income Tax Study, the Committee choose Representative Conlon to be the fifth House member of the Joint Subcommittee.

Concerning the Iowa Boundary Commission membership, the legislation creating the commission specified that the membership be appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. Chairperson Coleman stated that he would recommend that Senators Slater, Coleman and Hultman be appointed by Lieutenant Governor Neu.

Returning to the House membership of the Joint Subcommittee of Product Liability, the Committee agreed to meet prior to the Legislative Council meeting on August 9 to resolve the membership question.

Senator Ramsey moved that the Committee recommend the creation of a Joint Subcommittee on Partition Fence Laws with membership from the Committees on Judiciary and Law Enforcement, three members from each house, and two authorized meeting days. After discussion Senator Ramsey recommended that the Senate membership include Senator Alvin Miller, Senator Joseph Coleman, and Senator Richard Ramsey. He further recommended that the House membership include Representative Philip Davitt, Representative Lyle Stevens, and Representative John Pelton. The motion was adopted by a voice vote. Senator Nolting asked to be recorded as voting nay.

Senator Ramsey moved that the Committee on Studies recommend approval of all study items and membership, except the membership on the Joint Subcommittee on Products Liability to the Legislative Council. The motion carried. A copy of the Report of the Studies Committee is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

There being no further business, Representative Millen moved that the Studies Committee adjourn at 12:30 p.m. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

THANE R. JOHNSON  
Senior Research Analyst

SERGE GARRISON  
Director