

M I N U T E S

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

February 22, 1979

The organizational meeting of the 1979-80 Legislative Council was called to order at 12:05 p.m., Thursday, February 22, 1979 in Senate Committee Room 22 of the State House in Des Moines, by Lieutenant Governor Terry Branstad acting as temporary Chairperson. Members attending the meeting were:

Lieutenant Governor Terry Branstad
Speaker of the House Floyd H. Millen
Senator James E. Briles
Senator Willard R. Hansen
Senator Lowell Junkins
Senator John Murray
Senator Richard R. Ramsey
Senator Bob Rush
Senator Ray Taylor
Representative Robert T. Anderson
Representative Donald D. Avenson
Representative John H. Clark
Representative Gregory D. Cusack
Representative Roger A. Halvorson
Representative William H. Harbor
Representative Norman G. Jesse
Representative Delwyn Stromer
Representative Richard W. Welden

Also present were Director Serge Garrison, Senior Legal Counsel Bernie Koebernick and Senior Research Analyst Phil Burks of the Legislative Service Bureau, Legislative Fiscal Director Gerry D. Rankin, Citizens' Aide Bill Angrick, Code Editor Wayne Faupel, Superintendent of Printing Vern Lundquist, Secretary-Treasurer Charles O. Davis of the State Legislative Leaders Foundation, and a number of other interested persons.

Lieutenant Governor Branstad noted that he was acting as temporary Chairperson for the purpose of convening this organizational meeting, since neither the immediate past Chairperson nor immediate past Vice Chairperson are currently members of the Council. He entertained nominations for the office of permanent Chairperson of the Council.

Senator Murray nominated Speaker Millen for Chairperson of the Council. Representative Stromer moved that the nominations cease, and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Speaker Millen as Chairperson of the Council. Representative Stromer's motion was adopted by a unanimous voice vote and Speaker Millen assumed the chair.

Representative Halvorson moved that Senator Calvin O. Hultman be elected Vice Chairperson of the Council. The motion was adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

Chairperson Millen noted that the next item of business on the agenda was the adoption of rules for the 1979-1980 Council, and that the members present had been provided with copies of the rules adopted by the previous Legislative Council. After a brief discussion, Representative Harbor moved that the rules of the 1977-1978 Legislative Council be adopted as temporary rules of the 1979-1980 Council. The motion was seconded by Representative Stromer, and unanimously adopted.

Chairperson Millen stated that the appointment of the Legislative Council's standing committees would be postponed.

He then recognized Mr. Garrison, who briefly stated the requirements of section 79.1 of the Code of Iowa with respect to the reporting to the Legislative Council of educational leave granted by state agencies to their employees. He noted that there had been distributed to Council members present copies of a compilation of educational leave reports received by the Legislative Service Bureau for transmission to the Council since the most recent meeting of the Legislative Council, on December 19, 1979.

Representative Harbor questioned how meaningful the Council's review of educational leave granted by state agencies can be, noting that the compilation of reports distributed does not appear to indicate to what extent, if any, the various individual employees granted educational leave are attending college or other educational courses on state-paid time. There was additional discussion, in the course of which Mr. Garrison pointed out that the reports are presently submitted to the Council only as a means for advising the Council and the General Assembly of the extent to which state agencies are making use of the educational leave provisions of the law, and not for discretionary review. Several Council members suggested that some discretionary review might be desirable, noting that in at least some cases it does not appear that the courses for which various state employees have received educational leave are particularly related to those employees' respective job assignments. Representative Welden suggested that a subcommittee of the Council be established to review the educational leave statute.

Senator Hansen then moved that the Chairperson appoint a subcommittee of the Legislative Council to review the educational leave statute and suggest a uniform policy on educational leave, and that the subcommittee be requested to submit a report to the majority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives this session. The motion was seconded by Representative Jesse and unanimously adopted.

Chairperson Millen next recognized Mr. Angrick, who presented two memoranda dated February 21, 1979 and February 22, 1979. Copies of the memoranda are attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

Representative Stromer questioned whether it is appropriate to reimburse General Deputy John Spinnato for the cost of taking a course to prepare him for the Iowa Bar examination (which Mr. Spinnato has now taken and passed). After some discussion, Representative Stromer moved that the Council defer acceptance of the Citizens' Aide's report until the Council's Service Committee has been established and has had the opportunity to review this matter. The motion was seconded by Representative Halvorson and, after some discussion, adopted by a divided voice vote.

Representative Cusack inquired whether it is the intent of the Council's action that Deputy for Corrections Ray Cornell not enroll in the Criminal Justice/Corrections courses at the Des Moines Area Community College, beginning in March, 1979, as indicated in item 4 of Mr. Angrick's February 22 memorandum. Representative Stromer replied that there is no reason Mr. Cornell should not proceed as indicated by the memorandum.

Chairperson Millen recognized Code Editor Faupel, who requested direction from the Council with respect to the method of printing the compiled Acts of the 1979 Session. Mr. Faupel explained that for the past two years the compiled Session Laws have been printed by a photo offset method, using the enrolled bills as camera-ready copy. He stated that the alternative is to return to a type composition method of preparing copy for printing. He said the latter method takes longer and costs somewhat more, but that the end product is generally regarded as being more attractive.

Senator Ramsey moved that the Council advise Mr. Faupel to use the photo offset method for printing the compiled Acts of the 1979 Session. The motion was seconded by Representative Avenson, and unanimously adopted.

Chairperson Millen then recognized Secretary/Treasurer Davis of the State Legislative Leaders Foundation (SLLF). Mr. Davis presented a proposal that the Foundation perform an analysis and evaluation and formulate recommendations to strengthen structural and procedural aspects of the Iowa legislative process. He distributed copies of the SLLF proposal. (Copies of the proposal are on file with the Legislative Service Bureau.) Mr. Davis responded to a series of questions from Council members. He indicated the total cost of the proposed project would be \$21,500 (see last sheet of SLLF proposal), but added that the Foundation would also hope that the staff person assigned to the project by SLLF could be provided what he termed "minimal office space" in Iowa.

Mr. Davis noted that the Council had previously agreed to a similar proposal from SLLF, which was contingent on approval of a federal grant. He explained that the grant in question was subsequently denied, explaining that the funds involved seem to be granted primarily to local rather than state governments.

Mr. Davis said that if the Council accepts the SLLF proposal, he would hope to begin the project in the very near future. He added that he would like to have a bipartisan committee of an unspecified size to which to report and to work with on the project.

After several minutes' discussion, Senator Ramsey moved that the Council not enter into the proposed agreement with SLLF, at least during the current legislative session. The motion was seconded by Senator Junkins.

After some additional discussion, Representative Halvorson moved as a substitute for Senator Ramsey's motion that the Council proceed in accordance with the SLLF proposal and attached budget. The substitute motion was seconded by Representative Stromer.

There was further discussion, in the course of which Mr. Davis expressed apprehension that beginning such a project in an even-numbered year inevitably means it becomes involved in the political campaign in that year.

Chairperson Millen suggested that the Council defer action on the SLLF proposal for a week to ten days. This suggestion was agreed to, and the Council took no final action on the matter. Mr. Davis stated that it would be necessary for SLLF to know by March 31, 1979 if the Council intends to accept its proposal.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILIP E. BURKS
Senior Research Analyst

SERGE H. GARRISON
Director