

M I N U T E S

STUDIES COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

December 20, 1989

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council met on Wednesday, December 20, 1989, in Senate Room 22, State House, Des Moines, Iowa. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Don Avenson at 1:25 p.m. Members present in addition to Chairperson Avenson were:

Senator C. Joseph Coleman
Senator Emil Husak
Senator Bill Hutchins
Senator John N. Nystrom
Representative Bob Arnould
Representative John Connors

Senator Coleman moved to dispense with calling the roll and to approve the minutes of the October 18, 1989, meeting. The motions were seconded and adopted unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR COMMITTEE

Chairperson Avenson commented that a number of requests have been received by the Committee, that those requests have been distributed to the members in the packet they received and stated that he would provide the legislative leadership's recommendations on each request. He noted that the first request is for approval for the Air Link Transportation Commission to hire a consultant. Senator Welsh was introduced and commented that the Commission has received thirteen proposals from consultants with the cost varying from \$201,000 to \$97,500 and that the Commission seeks approval of the Legislative Council of an upper limit on how much could be paid the consultant. Senator Hutchins suggested that \$170,000 be set as the upper limit with the Commission having to come back before the Committee if it wants to hire a consultant for an amount in excess of that figure. After some discussion, Senator Hutchins moved that the Air Link Transportation Commission be authorized to hire a consultant for an amount not exceeding \$170,000. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously.

Chairperson Avenson suggested that the Committee members wait until he has listed all the requests before getting into a discussion and voting on the items separately because of the time.

The next request was for an extension of the meeting deadline through January 31, 1990, for the Iowa Agricultural Trade Relations with the European Economic Community Study Committee and authorization to pay an honorarium and expenses of a presenter. Chairperson Avenson noted that the newly created Legislative Capital Projects Committee of the Legislative Council is requesting authority to meet on January 3, 1990, and during the 1990 Legislative Session, for authority to collect information, and for authority to make recommendations; and that approval is also being sought for the DHS Institutions Staffing Advisory Committee to meet during the 1990 Legislative Session.

Chairperson Avenson commented that additional business has arisen in which authorization is requested to retain a consultant at a cost of not more than \$15,000 to conduct a study of the costs and other factors relating to the development of child day care services for state employees based in the Capitol Complex with an ad hoc committee to be appointed by the leadership to provide oversight to the consultant. The committee would consist of three members from both the Senate and House and five public members. Additional items that Chairperson Avenson identified included approval being given for the Co-chairpersons of the Higher Education Task Force to continue to meet through June 30, 1990, to complete the work of the Task Force; that legislative staff be directed to review the Iowa Business Council Report on information resources, systems, and technology, and report to the Legislative Council at a future meeting; and that the process to be used for program evaluations performed by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau involve the submission of requests by the Legislative Fiscal Committee to the Legislative Council, the appointment by the legislative leaders, upon approval of the Legislative Council, of a sponsorship committee consisting of two Senate and two House members to provide direction and guidance regarding the evaluation, and authorization for the sponsorship committee to hold one meeting day to receive the program evaluation report.

Senator Husak asked why there is a request for authorization to hire a consultant for a child day care need study. Chairperson Avenson responded that provision for hiring a consultant for this type of study was vetoed by the Governor. He commented that the Legislative Council conducted a survey of child day care needs but that the Department of General Services has not followed up on the survey. Chairperson Avenson concluded that there is a need to put together a request for proposal from a consultant so that a model child care facility for the Capitol Complex could become a reality.

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Senator Hutchins moved that the Studies Committee make the recommendations to the Legislative Council as presented by Chairperson Avenson. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously. (A copy of the Studies Committee Report is attached.)

Representative Connors moved the Studies Committee adjourn. There being no further business or objections, the motion was adopted and the Committee adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL J. GOEDERT
Senior Legal Counsel

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