

M I N U T E S  
STUDIES COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
IOWA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

August 20, 1975

The second meeting of the Studies Committee of the 1975-1976 Legislative Council was called to order by Co-Chairperson Senator George Kinley at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, August 20, 1975 in the Speaker's Room of the State House in Des Moines. Committee members present in addition to Senator Kinley were:

Representative Jerome Fitzgerald, Co-Chairperson  
Senator Willard R. Hansen  
Senator Eugene N. Hill  
Senator Bass Van Gilst  
Representative Dale Cochran  
Representative William J. Hargrave  
Representative Floyd Millen

Also attending the meeting were:

Representative Donald V. Doyle  
Director Serge Garrison, Legislative Service Bureau  
Senior Research Analyst Philip E. Burks, Legislative Service Bureau

Senator Kinley presented to the Studies Committee the request of Senate Judiciary Committee Chairperson Gene W. Glenn for creation of a joint subcommittee of the standing Committees on Judiciary to study the establishment of an interim appellate court in Iowa. Senator Kinley stated that Mr. Garrison had expressed belief that such a joint subcommittee, if authorized, could be provided adequate staff support by the Service Bureau. Senator Kinley endorsed establishment of such a joint subcommittee, with an initial authorization of three meetings during the current legislative interim. Senator Hansen noted that it is his understanding that a private group is currently studying the same matter.

There was a discussion of continuation of the Uniform Vehicle Code project, under the jurisdiction of the Committees on Judiciary. A letter from Commissioner of Public Safety Charles W. Larson, endorsing continuation of the project, and an explanation and progress report of the project are attached to and by this reference made parts of these minutes.

Representative Doyle expressed hope that the Studies Committee would see fit to continue this project. Mr. Garrison remarked that the project is not particularly burdensome to the Service Bureau, because the Department of Public Safety has done

most of the drafting work up to this point. He added that the UVC project is a long-term undertaking which will not be finished during the current interim.

Senator Van Gilst moved that the Studies Committee recommend to the Council authorization of a ten-member joint interim subcommittee of the Senate and House Committees on Judiciary to study possible establishment of an intermediate appellate court, and of a six-member joint interim subcommittee of the respective Judiciary Committees to continue the Uniform Vehicle Code project. The motion was seconded by Representative Cochran and, after a brief discussion, unanimously adopted.

There was some discussion of the appropriate makeup for the UVC subcommittee. Representative Fitzgerald moved that the Studies Committee recommend to the Council that at least one Senate member and one House member of this subcommittee be drawn from the respective Transportation Committees, whether or not these individuals are members of the respective Judiciary Committees. No objection was expressed, and it was so ordered.

Representative Fitzgerald reported that Representative W. R. Monroe, Jr. has asked to be replaced on the Social Services and Mental Health Study Committee by Representative Joyce Lonergan. He noted that both are members of the House Committee on Human Resources. He therefore moved that the Studies Committee recommend this change to the Legislative Council. There was no objection and it was so ordered.

Representative Hargrave pointed out that the Social Services and Mental Health Study Committee presently includes the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Human Resources and the Chairpersons of both the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Human Resources. He asked that the Studies Committee recommend to the Legislative Council that the Chairperson of the House Committee on Human Resources, Representative Tom Higgins, also be appointed to this Study Committee. Other Studies Committee members observed that such an appointment would alter the present partisan alignment of the Study Committee.

After some discussion, Representative Fitzgerald suggested that the Studies Committee recommend to the Legislative Council that both Representative Higgins and Senator Richard Ramsey be added to the membership of the Social Services and Mental Health Study Committee. Senator Van Gilst so moved. The motion was seconded by Representative Cochran, and unanimously adopted.

Senator Kinley stated that the Adult Penal and Correctional Systems Study Committee has requested authority to select a number of non-legislators to work with the Study Committee on an advisory basis. He yielded to Representative Doyle, who briefly explained the request. A copy of a document entitled "Adult Penal and Correctional Systems Study Committee", explaining the request as presented to the Legislative Council, is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

Representative Cochran noted that the Council has in the past had a policy that the number of advisory members appointed to any study committee not exceed one-half the number of legislative members serving on that committee. He expressed hope that the number of advisory members invited to participate in any particular meeting of the Adult Penal and Correctional Systems Study Committee would not exceed that guideline.

On motion of Senator Van Gilst, seconded by Representative Hargrave, the Studies Committee agreed to recommend to the Council approval of the Adult Penal and Correctional Systems Study Committee's request.

Representative Hargrave referred to the receipt by members of the Legislative Council of a letter from the League of Iowa Municipalities, objecting to the fact that none of the members appointed to the Property Tax Study Committee is a member of either the Senate or House Committee on Cities. A copy of such a letter is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

After a brief discussion, Representative Millen moved that the Studies Committee take no action on the request. The motion died for lack of a second.

After further discussion, Senator Van Gilst moved that the Studies Committee recommend to the Council the addition of Senator Fred Nolting to the Property Tax Study Committee. The motion was seconded by Senator Hill and adopted by a voice vote, Representative Millen voting no.

There was a brief discussion of the appointment of members to the various joint interim subcommittees the establishment of which the Legislative Council had already authorized. Representative Fitzgerald noted that nearly all of these appointments had been made, although one or two decisions remained to be completed regarding members to be appointed from the House. He suggested that the Studies Committee report this fact to the Council, with a recommendation that the various subcommittees be authorized to proceed with meetings as rapidly as they can be arranged, and that Council members be advised that they will receive a complete list of appointments to the various subcommittees at or before the Council's September meeting. There was no objection and it was so ordered.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

SERGE H. GARRISON  
Director

PHILIP E. BURKS  
Senior Research Analyst