

MINUTES

STUDIES COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

September 25, 1991

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council was called to order by the Chairperson, Senator Bill Hutchins, at 1:15 p.m. on Wednesday, September 25, 1991, in Senate Room 22 of the State Capitol Building, Des Moines, Iowa. In addition to Chairperson Hutchins, the following Committee members were present:

Speaker Bob Arnould
Senator Wally Horn
Senator Emil Husak
Senator Jim Lind
Senator Jack Rife
Representative Clifford Branstad
Representative Mary Lundby
Representative Wayne McKinney

Also present were staff members from the Legislative Service Bureau, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Research and Caucus Staffs, and other interested persons.

Senator Husak moved the adoption of the minutes of the July 18, 1991, meeting of the Studies Committee, as previously distributed to the members. The motion was adopted by voice vote.

INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE REQUESTS

A listing of interim study committee requests was distributed to the members. Chairperson Hutchins moved that the Agricultural Chemical Site Remediation Study Committee request for an additional day be recommended to the Legislative Council for approval and, in addition, the completion date deadline should be extended from November 1, 1991, to December 1, 1991. The motion was adopted by voice vote.

Chairperson Hutchins moved that the Curtailing Youth Violence and Gangs Study Committee request for an extension of the November 1, 1991, completion deadline be recommended for approval and that a new deadline of December 1, 1991, be established. The motion was approved without objection. A motion made

by Chairperson Hutchins to recommend the request of the Emergency Medical Services Study Committee for an extension of the November 1, 1991, deadline and to establish a new deadline of December 1, 1991, was also approved without objection.

The members next considered the requests of the Environmental, Recreational, and Economic Development of Iowa's Rivers and Lakes Study Committee to hold its meetings outside the Des Moines area, to hold an additional meeting day, and to hold the additional meeting after the November 1, 1991, completion deadline. Chairperson Hutchins noted that this Study Committee had already held one meeting on the Missouri River and plans to hold a second meeting on the Mississippi River. Chairperson Hutchins moved that the Studies Committee recommend that the Legislative Council approve the request for a third meeting day, authorize the second meeting to be held outside Des Moines, require that the third meeting be held in Des Moines, and extend the completion deadline to December 1, 1991. The motion was approved without objection.

Chairperson Hutchins next moved that the Group Health Benefits for Public Employee Retirees Study Committee request for extension of the November 1, 1991, completion deadline be recommended and that a new deadline of December 1, 1991, be established. The motion was approved without objection.

Chairperson Hutchins' motion to recommend the request of the Infant Mortality in Iowa Study Committee to hold a meeting outside the Des Moines area was also approved without objection.

Chairperson Hutchins moved that the K-12 Reform Interim Study Committee request to extend a reporting deadline of September 1, 1991, be recommended and that a new deadline of November 15, 1991, be established. The motion was approved without objection.

The Studies Committee also considered two requests received from the Public Retirement Systems Committee for one additional meeting day and for extension of the November 1, 1991, completion deadline to December 3, 1991. On Chairperson Hutchins' motion, the two requests were recommended without objection.

The Studies Committee next considered the following requests received from the State Budget and Budgeting Practices Interim Study Committee: 1) extension of the November 1, 1991, completion deadline; 2) authorization to hold subcommittee meetings in lieu of a second meeting, which would include approval of per diem and expenses for those members who are members of two subcommittees; and 3) the establishment of a new December 1, 1991, completion deadline. On Chairperson Hutchins' motion, the requests were recommended without objection.

The Studies Committee discussed the request made by the Tax Fairness and Equity Study Committee for an extension of the October 1, 1991, deadline for making a recommendation concerning the hiring of a consultant. The co-chairpersons of this study committee had requested that this deadline be moved to November 1, 1991. Senator Rife voiced concern about the hiring of a consultant by this study committee, suggesting that the costs of such an undertaking could be significant and questioning whether substantially the same information can be gathered by existing staff. Senator Rife suggested that a cap should be placed on the amount the study committee could spend on a consultant. Senator Hutchins noted that the Studies Committee will make a decision on whether it is appropriate for the Tax Fairness and Equity Study Committee to hire a consultant when that committee makes a recommendation. On Chairperson Hutchins' motion, the request for establishment of a new deadline was recommended without objection.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM COMMITTEE REPORT

The Studies Committee considered a request by the Public Employee Retirement Systems Committee concerning the hiring of an actuarial consultant. Chairperson Hutchins noted that the employment of an actuarial consultant is required by state law. Chairperson Hutchins moved to recommend that the Public Employees Retirement Systems Committee be authorized to retain an actuarial consultant at a cost not to exceed \$15,000 to complete item 1 listed in the letter from Mr. Dennis Sullivan contained in the Committee's request to the Studies Committee dated September 25, 1991, with the cost to be paid from moneys appropriated pursuant to section 2.12. The recommendation was approved without objection.

ADDITIONAL INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEES

The Committee considered two proposals for additional interim study committees distributed to the Studies Committee and placed on file with the Legislative Service Bureau. Upon Chairperson Hutchins' motion, the Committee recommended, without objection, the establishment of an Expanding Iowa's Livestock Industry Interim Study Committee with the following provisions: the charge of the committee is to develop recommendations which will expand the size and profitability of Iowa's livestock industry; the committee shall be comprised of five Senate members, five House members, and five public members; the committee is authorized to hold two meeting days; and the completion deadline for the committee is December 1, 1991.

The second proposal was to recommend establishing of an Assuring Efficient Delivery of Social Services Interim Study Committee with the following charge: "to monitor the implementation of proposed executive branch changes in social service delivery systems. Primary goals should be to maintain adequate delivery of services

and document cost-effectiveness of proposed changes. Topics to be monitored should include, but not be limited to, Department of Human Services' district office restructuring and reorganization of Iowa's mental health institutes." Senator Lind moved to add the words "and effect of reorganization of district offices as ordered by law" after the word "systems" in the first sentence of the proposed charge of the committee. Chairperson Arnould offered a friendly amendment to Senator Lind's motion. He suggested that, rather than adding those words, that the words "proposed executive branch" in the first sentence be stricken. The motion as amended was adopted by voice vote.

Upon Chairperson Hutchins' motion, the Committee recommended, without objection, the establishment of an Assuring Efficient Delivery of Social Services Interim Study Committee with the following membership and meeting days: five Senate members, five House members, and three public members with authority to hold two meeting days. After further discussion, it was recommended that the completion deadline for this committee should be December 31, 1991.

Following Chairperson Hutchins' motion, the Committee approved a recommendation that the bipartisan legislative leadership be authorized to appoint the members of the new study committees.

A copy of the report of the Studies Committee to the Legislative Council is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, it was moved and adopted that the Committee adjourn at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

SUSAN E. CROWLEY
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