

M I N U T E S
STUDIES COMMITTEE

May 25, 1982

The meeting of the Studies Committee of the Legislative Council was called to order by the Chairperson, Representative Lawrence Pope, at 3:10 p.m., Tuesday, May 25, 1982, in the Speaker's Conference Room of the State House, Des Moines, Iowa. Studies Committee members present, in addition to Chairperson Pope, were:

Senator Calvin O. Hultman
Senator Lowell L. Junkins
Senator Ray Taylor
Representative Donald D. Avenson
Representative John H. Clark
Representative John H. Connors
Representative Lester D. Menke

Also attending were Serge H. Garrison, Director of the Legislative Service Bureau, Burnette E. Koebernick and Diane Bolender of the Legislative Service Bureau, various legislative staff, and other interested persons.

Chairperson Pope recognized Senator Hultman. Senator Hultman moved that the Studies Committee recommend the water study mandated in House File 2463, the study of the gubernatorial appointments process recommended in Senate Resolution 109, and the study of the tax structure mandated in Senate Concurrent Resolution 136. Included as a part of the motion is that the water study include five members of the House and five members of the Senate from the respective standing Committees on Natural Resources and that five meeting days be authorized. The study of the gubernatorial appointments process shall consist of five members of the Senate standing Committee on State Government with two approved meeting days. The study of the tax structure shall be conducted by five members of the Senate and five members of the House from the Senate and House standing Committees on Ways and Means and two approved meeting days. The motion was seconded by Senator Coleman and approved on a voice vote.

Senator Hultman moved that the Studies Committee recommend the unemployment compensation fund study contained in House Concurrent Resolution 136 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 110 which provides for monitoring the level of the unemployment trust fund and to study possible solutions to prevent trust fund insolvency. Representative Avenson indicated that he is not opposed to monitoring the level of the trust fund but would oppose studying the feasibility of cutting benefits. Committee consensus was that the study would not include a study of cutting benefits. The motion was adopted on a voice vote with Representative Connors voting in the negative.

Senator Hultman moved that the Studies Committee recommend the study of contract and bidding procedures as provided in Senate Concurrent Resolution 106, that the study be conducted by five

members of the Senate and five members of the House from the respective standing Committees on State Government and that two meeting days be allowed. Representative Clark suggested that the Studies Committee also include as a part of its recommendation that the committee be directed to focus its study only on the consolidation and uniformity of bidding laws as provided in SCR 106. The members of the Studies Committee agreed with Representative Clark's recommendation and the motion by Senator Hultman was adopted by voice vote.

Senator Hultman noted that Senate Concurrent Resolution 132 requires a study of stress days and price differentials and their impact on the productivity formula for valuing agricultural property by the Department of Revenue and moved that a committee consisting of five members of the Senate and five members of the House selected from the respective standing Committees on Ways and Means be allowed one meeting day to review the Department's study results. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Senator Hultman moved that a nuclear fuels committee be appointed from the respective standing Committees on Energy with five members from the Senate and five members from the House to study the transportation of spent nuclear fuels across the state and that the committee be allowed one meeting day. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Senator Hultman moved that an interim study on sentencing be approved with five members of the Senate selected from the Senate standing Committee on Judiciary and five members of the House selected from the House standing Committee on Judiciary and Law Enforcement to review the differences contained in the House and Senate versions of the sentencing bill and that the committee be allowed two days. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Senator Hultman moved that a legislative procedures committee be appointed pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 149 suggesting that the committee should also review the process of drafting and assigning study bills and the filing of fiscal notes and that the committee consist of five members of the Senate and five members of the House selected by the majority and minority leaders. Senator Junkins suggested that the committee should consist of twelve members, six from each house, and that each of the parties should have equal representation. Senator Hultman indicated that he is not opposed to this approach and will incorporate it into his motion. There being no further discussion, the motion, with the change recommended by Senator Junkins was adopted by voice vote.

Senator Junkins moved that a committee be appointed to study the feasibility of creating a department of corrections pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 112 and that the committee consist of five members of the Senate selected from the Senate standing Committee on Judiciary and five members of the House selected from the House standing Committee on Judiciary and Law Enforcement with two meeting days authorized. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Representative Avenson noted that he had lunched with Chief Justice Reynoldson of the Iowa Supreme Court and that the Chief Justice recommended that the General Assembly should initiate a study on the court reorganization bill which failed to pass the House and moved that a committee of five members of the Senate from the Senate standing Committee on Judiciary and five members of the House from the House standing Committee on Judiciary and Law Enforcement be authorized two days for the study. Senator Hultman suggested that the emphasis of the study should be the two areas of disagreement which relate to the positions of the clerks of court and the funding issue. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Representative Avenson suggested that the issue of student loans may be very significant if the President's proposed budget is approved and recommended the study under House Concurrent Resolution 140. Senator Hultman agreed but suggested that no action should be taken at this time and that the study could be approved at a later date after Congress has acted on the budget and the General Assembly knows what is included in the new federal budget. Representative Avenson also suggested that the list of areas for possible study should include the county finance bill and the county compensation board proposed under Senate Concurrent Resolution 121 and House Concurrent Resolution 103, equal pay for equal work proposed in House Concurrent Resolution 141, and utility rates proposed under Senate Concurrent Resolution 135.

Representative Clark noted that a number of possible issues for study relate to federal funds and the federal budget and moved that the Legislative Council appoint a committee to study the impact of the new federal budget with the committee consisting of 14 members with three meeting days allowed. The committee shall consist of the chairperson and ranking members of the respective standing Committees on Ways and Means, the chairpersons and ranking members of the respective standing Committees on Appropriations, and the Senate and House leadership. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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