

MINUTES

IOWA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

June 13, 1991

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The fourth meeting of the 1991-1992 Legislative Council was called to order by the Chairperson, Speaker Bob Arnould, at 1:35 p.m., Thursday, June 13, 1991, in Committee Room 22, Statehouse, Des Moines, Iowa. Members present in addition to Chairperson Arnould were:

Senator Bill Hutchins, Vice Chairperson
Senator Leonard L. Boswell
Senator Donald V. Doyle
Senator Wally E. Horn
Senator Emil J. Husak
Senator Jim Lind
Senator Jean Lloyd-Jones
Senator Jack Nystrom
Senator Jack Rife
Senator Joe J. Welsh
Representative Janet Adams
Representative Kay Chapman
Representative John H. Connors
Representative Thomas J. Jochum
Representative Mary Lundby
Representative Wayne McKinney, Jr.
Representative Michael K. Peterson
Representative Harold Van Maanen

Senator Rife requested that Senator Tieden be excused from the meeting. There was no objection and the request was granted.

Also present were Ms. Diane Bolender, Director, Legislative Service Bureau; Mr. Richard L. Johnson, Deputy Director, Legislative Service Bureau; Ms. Leslie Workman, Legal Counsel, Legislative Service Bureau; Mr. Dennis Prouty, Director, Legislative Fiscal Bureau; Mr. Tim Faller, Deputy Director, Legislative Fiscal Bureau; Mr. Sandy Scharf, Director, Computer Support Bureau; Mr. William Angrick, Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman; Mr. Thane R. Johnson, Senior Research Analyst, Legislative Service Bureau; other legislative staff members; representatives of the news media; and other interested persons.

MINUTES APPROVED

Chairperson Arnould recognized Senator Lloyd-Jones who moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 22, 1991, as submitted. There being no additions or corrections, the motion was adopted.

COSTS OF 1991-1992 LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAU LEGAL PUBLICATIONS

Chairperson Arnould recognized Ms. Bolender to review the price recommendations from the Department of General Services for the publication and distribution of the Iowa Administrative Bulletin, the Iowa Administrative Code Supplement, and the Iowa Court Rules Supplements. She stated that Ms. Kristi Little, Superintendent of the Printing and Mail Division, Department of General Services, recommends an increase of approximately five percent for the 1991-1992 publications.

There being no discussion on the recommendations, Vice Chairperson Hutchins moved the adoption of the publication prices as recommended by Ms. Little. The motion was adopted.

A copy of Ms. Little's letter recommending publication prices is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

LANGUAGE SUGGESTIONS REGARDING ITEM VETOES

Chairperson Arnould again recognized Ms. Bolender regarding a memorandum from Mr. Brent Appel suggesting drafting changes and techniques for conditions and limitations on appropriation items. Ms. Bolender noted that the memorandum had been requested by members of the Legislative Council at its May meeting. There being no comments, Chairperson Arnould stated that the memorandum was received and filed.

A copy of Mr. Appel's memorandum is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

REPORT OF THE FISCAL COMMITTEE

Chairperson Arnould recognized Senator Boswell for the Report of the Fiscal Committee. Senator Boswell reported that the Fiscal Committee met on June 12, 1991, and received testimony and information regarding the Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Council, the status of the livestock and crop reporting functions of the Department of Agriculture and Land

Stewardship, the status of the Worker Retraining Programs reported by the Department of Economic Development, and the May 31, 1991, meeting of the Revenue Estimating Conference. He noted that the Committee took no official action regarding the information and testimony received at the meeting.

There being no comments or questions, Senator Boswell moved the adoption of the Report of the Fiscal Committee. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Report of the Fiscal Committee is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Representative Peterson was recognized for the Report of the Administration Committee. He stated that the Committee met on June 13 and received an update on the progress of negotiations on a contract for the sale of the Iowa Code data base to Mead Data Central, Inc. The Legislative Service Bureau negotiator offered a five-year contract for \$15,000 per year and Mead Data Central counteroffered with a five-year contract for \$12,000 per year. He added that negotiations are continuing. He also stated that the Committee is in the process of obtaining additional information concerning the free distribution of the Iowa Code and related documents by the Iowa Code Office. In conclusion, he noted that the Committee recommends that the Legislative Council direct the legislative leaders of each House to review the policy on the use of the House and Senate Chambers by the public during the legislative interims.

In reply to a question by Vice Chairperson Hutchins, Senator Lloyd-Jones stated that she is aware of public groups being denied use of the Senate Chambers and that the members of the General Assembly should be more sensitive to allowing use of the Statehouse facilities when the General Assembly is adjourned for the interim. Vice Chairperson Hutchins responded that the current restrictions were imposed to allow legislators without other office space available to them to use their desks and files during the interim when necessary. He also noted that in the past legislators' personal items have been stolen from their desks. After further discussion, Chairperson Arnould and Vice Chairperson Hutchins agreed that although the Senate and House leadership determine the use of their chambers, review of the current policy on use of the House and Senate Chambers could be requested. Representative Lundby requested that if the use of the Chambers is allowed, members of the General Assembly be notified of scheduled uses of the Chambers to avoid conflicts with their personal schedules.

There being no further discussion, Representative Peterson moved the adoption of the Report of the Administration Committee. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Report of the Administration Committee is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

REPORT OF THE STUDIES COMMITTEE

Chairperson Arnould recognized Vice Chairperson Hutchins for the Report of the Studies Committee. Vice Chairperson Hutchins presented a brief review of the recommended interim studies and noted a typographical error on page 2 of the Report. He noted that the interim study entitled "Improving Governmental Efficiency and Operations" should have five House members, five Senate members, and three public members. The symbol "+" was placed after the number 3 rather than before it. He further stated that the Committee restricted the number of study topics and meeting days to cover the topics with highest priority. In response to a question by Representative Lundby, Vice Chairperson Hutchins stated that additional meeting days will be granted if the Committees can justify the requests.

Vice Chairperson Hutchins moved the adoption of the Report of the Studies Committee. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Report of the Studies Committee is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

REPORT OF THE SERVICE COMMITTEE

Chairperson Arnould recognized Senator Welsh for the Report of the Service Committee. Senator Welsh stated that the Committee met on June 13 to receive the personnel reports from the various central legislative agencies, to discuss a proposal for the purchase of a UNISYS 2200, to consider changes in the personnel guidelines for legislative library employees, to provide for the review of the status of the classification of certain legislative positions in comparison to similar positions in the executive branch, and to consider several individual personnel actions. Concerning Item #1, which recommends Legislative Council salary actions consistent with the policy of the executive branch, Senator Welsh stated that the date "July 1, 1991" should be amended to read "June 21, 1991" to be consistent with the beginning of the first pay period of the new fiscal year. He added that this will affect several legislative employees who would otherwise be eligible for merit pay increases commencing June 21, 1991. After discussion, Senator Welsh moved the amendment to change the date "July 1, 1991" to "June 21, 1991" and make other date changes in Item #1 as required. The amendment was adopted. In reply to a question by Senator Lind, Senator Welsh replied that sufficient funds are available in the legislative budgets to pay merit increases if the public employee challenge to the Governor's item vetoes to Senate File 548 (Compensation and Benefits Bill) is successful.

Senator Welsh also noted that the Committee recommends a change in the personnel policy regarding the compensation of legislative library employees to conform to the provisions of the federal wage and hour legislation. He also stated that the Committee recommends the purchase of a UNISYS 2200 processor, related

equipment, and software as outlined in the cost summary distributed to the Council members.

Senator Welsh moved the adoption of the Report of the Service Committee as amended. The motion was adopted. A copy of the Report of the Service Committee is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

PROPOSAL TO JOIN LAWSUIT ON COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Representative Connors moved that the Legislative Council join with the public employees who are challenging the Governor's item veto of the funding of the collective bargaining agreements between the various recognized bargaining units and the State of Iowa. He added that he believes the veto makes a mockery of the collective bargaining process, particularly binding arbitration.

Senator Rife responded that he objects to the proposal because there are other methods which could be used to provide the funding for the agreements including an override of the veto by the General Assembly. He added that it is inappropriate to commence lawsuits to reverse item vetoes as an alternative to a legislative override. Senator Lind commented that legal counsel should be consulted to determine if the Legislative Council or its members have standing with regard to the item vetoes of Senate File 548. Senator Welsh also commented that the proposal should be researched and that action on the proposal could be delayed until the July meeting of the Legislative Council. After further discussion, Representative Connors withdrew his motion and stated that he is willing to wait for research of the proposal, but he also emphasized that something should be done to restore the arbitrators' awards.

IOWA COMMISSION ON INTERSTATE COOPERATION

Representative Connors also announced that the Iowa Commission on Interstate Cooperation will be meeting soon to begin preparations for hosting the 1992 Annual Meeting of the Council of State Governments in Des Moines.

COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS FELLOWSHIP

Ms. Bolender announced that Representative Janet Adams is a recent recipient of a Fellowship awarded by the Council of State Governments. She added that Representative Adams is one of eight recipients from the Midwest region. The other members of the Legislative Council and members of the audience applauded Representative Adams' award.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Representative McKinney moved that the Legislative Council adjourn at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANE E. BOLENDER
Director, Legislative Service Bureau

THANE R. JOHNSON
Senior Research Analyst

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