

M I N U T E S

STUDIES COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

June 21, 1989

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council met on Wednesday, June 21, 1989, in Senate Room 22, State House, Des Moines, Iowa. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Don Avenson at 1:45 p.m. Members present in addition to Chairperson Avenson were:

Senator Bill Hutchins
Senator C. Joseph Coleman
Senator Emil Husak
Senator Calvin O. Hultman
Senator Jack Nystrom
Representative John Connors
Representative Mary Lundby

Senator Hultman moved the adoption of the minutes of the previous Studies Committee meeting. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote of the members.

FISCAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson Avenson discussed the Report of the Fiscal Committee of the Legislative Council which had been distributed to the members at the beginning of the meeting. Chairperson Avenson requested that item 4 of the Report be deferred until the appointment of the Legislative Procedures Committee of the Legislative Council. After approval of this request, Senator Hutchins moved that items 1, 2 and 3 of the Report be recommended for adoption by the Legislative Council. Senator Hultman seconded the motion and the members adopted it by voice vote. A copy of the Report of the Legislative Fiscal Committee is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

NEW JOBS TRAINING STUDY

Chairperson Avenson noted that even though the Fiscal Committee did not recommend the establishment of a study regarding the Iowa's New Jobs Training Program "623", he suggested that one be done. He added that a charge is being worked on and that the Study Committee should be authorized two meeting days.

Representative Connors moved that such a study be recommended to the Legislative Council, with five members from each house and two meeting days. This motion was seconded and adopted.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

Senator Hutchins commented that there is a need to look at the procedures of the General Assembly, especially in regard to study bills, departmental requests, and Governor's proposals. He suggested that the Legislative Procedures Committee of the Legislative Council be reestablished and made up of the leadership. Senator Husak agreed with this and commented that the procedures for appropriations bills coming from the joint subcommittees also need to be looked at. He added that a number of the Chairpersons of these joint subcommittees have expressed their dissatisfaction with the situation this past Session in that the appropriations bills approved by the joint subcommittees were subsequently amended almost in total by the appropriations Committees. Chairperson Avenson agreed that this would be looked into and that the Legislative Procedures Committee would seek input from everyone on what needs to be looked at and remedies. Senator Hutchins moved that the Studies Committee recommend that the Legislative Council reestablish the Legislative Procedures Committee with six members from each house and the motion was adopted.

OTHER NEW STUDIES

Senator Coleman asked that the Studies Committee seek approval from the Legislative Council for an interim study of platting and mortgage surveys, consisting of five members from each house with two meeting days.

Senator Hutchins pointed out that a Senate Resolution had been introduced that requested the Legislative Council to expend necessary funds for a study of medical malpractice and tort liability claims. He asked Senator Doyle to explain further the intent of this resolution. Senator Doyle explained that in the middle of the debate on the state's malpractice legislation, the General Assembly appropriated \$60,000 to the Judicial Department to have compiled the number of Iowa suits for malpractice and tort liability and the total dollar amounts involved. He added that this study had been done a number of years ago and it would be invaluable to update the compilations for Iowa to compare the state with other states. It was pointed out that the Resolution had not set an upper limit on the amount of funds that would be available. After some discussion, a limit was set at \$50,000 to be available for this study.

Chairperson Avenson discussed the need to conduct a study to determine the viability for providing passenger air transportation service that would link Iowa's largest cities. He requested that

the Studies Committee seek approval from the Legislative Council to appoint an Air Link Transportation Commission to prepare a request for a consultant who would prepare proposals for a contract that would be let to an Iowa-based company to provide for this air transportation service that would at a minimum tie together Iowa's ten largest metropolitan areas. The Commission would be authorized four meeting dates and would consist of two members of each house and seven citizen members.

Senator Hutchins requested that approval be requested from the Legislative Council for an interim study of Subchapter S Corporations in regard to the taxation of the corporations and their shareholders. The interim committee would consist of five members from each house and be authorized two meeting days.

Senator Hultman moved that the Studies Committee seek Legislative Council approval for the previously mentioned Platting and Mortgage Surveys Study, Subchapter S Corporations Study, appointment of an Air Link Transportation Commission and related study, and expenditure of funds to allow the Judicial Department to update the study on Iowa's medical malpractice and tort liability claims. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

CITIZENS' AIDE/OMBUDSMAN

Senator Husak told the Committee that he was aware of a letter from Senator Vande Hoef requesting an interim study relating to the authority of the Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman. Senator Husak commented that he is not making that recommendation but rather that questions of the Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman's authority should be referred to the Service Committee. Representative Connors, who is Chairman of the Service Committee, had no objection but commented that the Committee would not involve itself in the present court case involving the Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman. Senator Husak's motion to refer the questions of the Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman's authority to the Service Committee was seconded and adopted by voice vote.

CHRONIC RENAL DISEASE PROGRAM

Representative Lundby moved that the Legislative Council be requested to direct the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to conduct a program evaluation of the state's Chronic Renal Disease Program. The motion was seconded and adopted by voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairperson Avenson noted that there have been no requests for additional meeting days or members for the interim committees that

had previously been approved. He informed the members that the citizen members for the Secondary and Farm-to-Market Roads Study Committee had been appointed.

The Committee then considered language relating to a survey to be done by the Legislative Service Bureau concerning need for child care for Capitol Complex employees. A copy of this language is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes. Chairperson Avenson noted that this was the result of the Governor's item veto of a provision to establish a child care facility for those employees. Senator Hultman suggested that item 4 of the suggested language be taken out because he felt the Legislative Council should not be considering a site at this time. The language requiring the survey to be done with Senator Hultman's adjustments was adopted by voice vote.

The Committee next approved a change in the charge for the Non-gender Based Insurance Study Committee. This new language was suggested by the designated temporary chairpersons as was noted by Chairperson Avenson. A copy of this language is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

Chairperson Avenson stated that the appropriation to hire a consultant to perform a study of the health insurance needs of Iowans was item vetoed by the Governor but the study was not; hence the law requires a consultant to do a study but no funds are available to pay them. Senator Hutchins moved that up to \$200,000 of moneys appropriated in section 2.12 of the Code be made available for the consultant to do the study. The motion was seconded and adopted by voice vote.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

The members approved a motion to request the Legislative Council to grant the bipartisan leadership of the General Assembly authority to make appointments to the additional interim study committees, the Brushy Creek Recreation Area Trails Advisory Committee, and the Air Link Transportation Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Studies Committee adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL J. GOEDERT
Senior Legal Counsel

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REPORT OF THE FISCAL COMMITTEE TO THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

June 21, 1989

The Fiscal Committee of the Legislative Council met on Monday, June 12, 1989 and makes the following recommendations:

1. That the Chairpersons, Vice-chairpersons, and Ranking members of the Joint Education Appropriations Subcommittee receive one visitation day to meet with members of the Board of Regents to review the concerns of the financial information system. This is to occur in July to accomodate the short time frame prior to the desired implementation of the system by the Board of Regents.
2. That a two-day interim study committee be established to review the AFSCME staffing study, receive comments and concerns, and make recommendations regarding staffing patterns at the institutions served by the Department of Human Services.
3. That the modification of program evaluations as suggested by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau be adopted and implemented. The modification provides for each program evaluation conducted by LFB to be sponsored by a set of interested legislators who would participate in the program evaluation process.
4. That the Joint Health and Human Rights Visitation Committee receive three visitation days to examine the Maternal and Child Health Services and Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention Programs of the Department of Public Health.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Tom Jochum
Co-chairperson

Senator Joe Welsh
Co-chairperson

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