



MINUTES

Studies Committee of the Legislative Council

June 27, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Stewart Iverson, Jr., Chairperson	
Representative Chuck Gipp, Vice Chairperson	
Senator Nancy Boettger	Representative Dolores Mertz
Senator Michael Gronstal	Representative Christopher Rants
Senator Johnnie Hammond	Representative David Schrader
	Representative Brent Siegrist

MEETING IN BRIEF

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- I. Procedural Business.
 - II. Guidelines for Interim Studies.
 - III. Consideration of Proposed Interim Studies.
 - IV. Committee Report.
 - V. Materials Attached.
 - VI. Materials Filed With the Legislative Service Bureau.
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Studies Committee of the Legislative Council

I. Procedural Business.

The third meeting of the Studies Committee of the Legislative Council for 1999-2000 was called to order by Chairperson Iverson at 2:09 p.m. on Tuesday, June 27, 2000, in the Ronald Reagan Room of the State Capitol in Des Moines, Iowa.

Upon motion of Senator Hammond, the minutes of the June 30, 1999, meeting were approved as distributed.

Report Received. The Committee received and filed the report of the Treatment Component of Child Welfare Services Work Group.

Adjournment. The Committee was adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

II. Guidelines for Interim Studies.

Chairperson Iverson described the proposed guidelines for interim studies included in the Committee packet and mailed in advance. He noted that the guidelines include a deadline for interim study committees to finish meeting for the 2000 Interim by December 29, 2000. The guidelines were adopted without objection as a recommendation to the Legislative Council and are attached to these minutes.

III. Consideration of Proposed Interim Studies.

Listing of Proposed Interim Studies. Vice Chairperson Gipp discussed the compilation of the 2000 Legislative Interim Study information that was developed by the Legislative Service Bureau and mailed to the members. He subsequently offered a proposal for interim studies activities that Chairperson Iverson and he put together. It was noted that the proposed Mental Health and Development Disabilities Services Task Force would be made up of public members but that an interim committee made up of legislators would be established to monitor the Task Force's activities.

Proposed Appointment Recommendation. Concern was expressed by Representative Schrader and echoed by Senator Gronstal on Item B of the proposal which recommended that statutory appointments to legislative and nonlegislative bodies would be made in the manner provided for appointment of public members under the interim study guidelines just considered by the Study Committee. The concern voiced was the potential lack of significant minority party input in the appointment process. It was noted that in selecting public members, various organizations make nominations from which members are selected. It was explained that under the interim study guidelines public member appointments must be gender-balanced. Chairperson Iverson commented that the intent of Item B is to prevent the reoccurrence of the circumstances surrounding appointments to the Sentencing Commission during the 1998 Interim. There, because of the intransigence of the County Attorney's Association and resulting disagreement among the leaders, the Commission was delayed in being established for more than three months.

Amendment to Listing – Strike Item B. It was subsequently moved and adopted by voice vote that Item B of the listing of proposed interim studies be deleted.

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Adoption of Listing of Proposed Interim Activities. Vice Chairperson Gipp moved adoption of the proposed listing, as amended, and the amended listing was adopted on a voice vote.

Beverage Container Interim. Vice Chairperson Gipp proposed an additional legislative interim study relating to reviewing provisions for the redemption of beverage containers as provided in Iowa law. The written proposal was adopted by a voice vote.

Personal Privacy Interim. Senator Gronstal proposed an additional legislative interim study to review the privacy protections in Iowa law for Iowa consumers. Chairperson Iverson proposed authorizing one meeting day which was accepted by unanimous consent. The written proposal, as amended by unanimous consent, was adopted by a voice vote.

HMO Accountability Interim. Senator Gronstal proposed that an additional legislative interim study be authorized to recommend mechanisms to hold health maintenance organizations accountable for the quality of care for their enrollees. The written proposal and an authorization of one meeting day was adopted by a voice vote.

Prescription Drug Benefit for Seniors Interim. Senator Gronstal proposed an additional legislative interim study to explore ways to reduce the costs of prescription drugs for seniors. The written proposal and an authorization of one meeting day was adopted by a voice vote.

Campaign Finance Commission Interim. Senator Gronstal offered a written proposal to reestablish the Campaign Finance Commission from the 1999 Interim to continue its work regarding the consideration of all issues relating to the reform of campaign finance disclosure and related laws. It was noted that this Commission's members would have to be appointed again and requests for public hearings throughout the state would again have to be made. Senator Hammond moved that the proposal be amended to allow for three meeting days. The amendment was approved. The motion to approve the proposal, as amended, was defeated by a roll call vote of four ayes (Senators Gronstal and Hammond and Representatives Mertz and Schrader) to five nays (Senators Iverson and Boettger and Representatives Gipp, Rants, and Siegrist).

The Committee agreed by unanimous consent that the final meeting date of December 29, 2000, in the guidelines should apply to the additional legislative interim studies approved.

IV. Committee Report.

The proposals adopted by the Committee were compiled into one report to be presented to the Legislative Council. The Committee report is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes.

V. Materials Attached.

- A. Proposed Guidelines for Interim Study Committees.
- B. Studies Committee Report.

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VI. Materials Distributed and Filed by the Legislative Service Bureau.

The following materials were received by the Committee and filed with the Legislative Service Bureau:

- A.** Minutes of June 30, 1999, meeting of the Studies Committee.
- B.** Studies Compilation of Required and Requested Studies, prepared by the Legislative Service Bureau.
- C.** Proposed 2000 Legislative Interim Studies Actions, distributed by Chairperson Iverson and Vice Chairperson Gipp.
- D.** Description of proposed Beverage Container Redemption Study Committee, submitted by Vice Chairperson Gipp.
- E.** Description of proposed Interim Study Committee on Personal Privacy Issues, submitted by Senator Gronstal.
- F.** Description of proposed Interim Study Committee on HMO Accountability, submitted by Senator Gronstal.
- G.** Description of proposed Interim Study on A Prescription Drug Benefit for Seniors, submitted by Senator Gronstal.
- H.** Description of proposed Campaign Finance Commission, submitted by Senator Gronstal.
- I.** Report of the Treatment Component of Child Welfare Services Work Group.