



MINUTES

International Relations Committee

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Zach Nunn, Chairperson
Senator Jeff Edler
Senator Kevin Kinney

Representative Terry C. Baxter, Vice Chairperson
Representative Ako Abdul-Samad
Representative Karin Derry
Representative Brian K. Lohse
Representative Heather Matson

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CONTENTS

- I. Procedural Business**
- II. Introduction of Brigadier General Stephen E. Osborn and Committee Discussion with Kosovo Delegation**



I. Procedural Business

Background and Charge. The International Relations Committee was created by the Legislative Council in 1992. The committee's charge is as follows: Develop goals and procedures that will facilitate international communication between the Iowa General Assembly and foreign governments on several different levels, including but not limited to interpersonal interaction between state legislators and legislative staff and foreign visitors, instruction about state and local democratic institutions, and the development of trade in foreign markets.

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nunn at 8:01 a.m., Tuesday, April 2, 2019, in Room 22 of the State Capitol Building in Des Moines.

Minutes. A draft of the minutes of the March 11, 2019, meeting is available at www.legis.iowa.gov/committees/meetings/minutes?meetingID=29646.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

II. Introduction of Brigadier General Stephen E. Osborn and Committee Discussion with Kosovo Delegation

Senator Nunn welcomed and congratulated Brigadier General Stephen E. Osborn, Director of the Iowa National Guard Joint Staff, who will soon serve as Interim Adjutant General due to the May 2019 retirement of Major General Timothy E. Orr.

Senator Nunn welcomed the Kosovo delegation and invited Mr. Xhavit Gashi, Consul General, Consulate of the Republic of Kosovo to introduce representatives of the Ministry of Local Government Administration of the Republic of Kosovo, Ms. Rozafa Ukimeraj-Çuni, Secretary General; Mr. Ylli Valla, Head of Public Communication Division; Ms. Lumnije Demi, Head of Division for Inter-Municipal Cooperation; and Mr. Rrustem Gashi, Representative, Municipality of Istog. Discussion topics included Iowa's contributions to Kosovo's success, recent sister city partnerships, and requests for future Iowa/Kosovo sister city connections. Committee members and the Kosovo delegation exchanged gifts. The Kosovo delegation was then escorted by members of the committee on a tour of the Iowa State Capitol.