

M I N U T E S

SERVICE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

July 17, 1986

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The meeting of the Service Committee was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by the Chairman, Representative John Connors, on Thursday, July 17, 1986, in Committee Room 22 of the State House, Des Moines. Members present in addition to the Chairman were:

Senator Lee Holt
Senator Jim Wells
Representative Tom Jochum
Representative Delwyn Stromer

Also present were:

Mr. Donovan Peeters, Director, Legislative Service Bureau
Mr. Dennis Prouty, Director, Legislative Fiscal Bureau
Mr. William Angrick, Citizens' Aide
Mr. Sandy Scharf, Director, Computer Support Bureau
Ms. Diane Bolender, Senior Research Analyst, Legislative Service Bureau

When the meeting was called to order, a quorum was not yet present and no action was taken on the minutes of the June 18, 1986 meeting.

COMPARABLE WORTH STATUS REPORT

Mr. Peeters stated that the Comparable Worth Appeals Committee had initially had 119 individuals appeal in 68 of the different job classifications proposed by Arthur Young & Co, in its legislative comparable worth study. Only two or three individuals did not file the supporting documentaion that is to accompany appeals and these appeals were automatically withdrawn in accordance with rules adopted by the Appeals Committee. He stated that the Appeals Committee scheduled two days of public hearings and all individuals who had filed appeals and supporting documentation were given an opportunity to appear, make a statement, and respond to questions. He stated that the Appeals

Committee is presently reviewing all of the appeals on an individual basis and is reviewing each factor score. Mr. Peeters estimated that it would take until approximately July 30th to complete the decision making process. The report of the Appeals Committee will be made to the Service Committee, but will be released in advance of any meeting of the Service Committee so that comments of appellants can be filed with the Service Committee prior to its scheduled meeting.

Chairman Connors asked whether the large number of appeals will delay the timetable established earlier. Mr. Peeters stated that the Appeals Committee members agreed that time would be taken to properly consider the appeals, and the Committee is presently working on common standards for the Committee to use for some factors. Senator Wells asked whether the appeals were mainly from session-only employees or from full-time employees. Mr. Peeters responded that the appeals were mixed, that larger numbers of full-time employees appealed, but the number of positions appealed by session-only personnel was large.

Mr. Peeters distributed additional rules of procedure that had been adopted by the Appeals Committee after the Service Committee's June 18 meeting. He stated that they are more detailed and have the purpose of more clearly defining and detailing the previously adopted rules. Mr. Peeters explained that some of the rules were intended to clarify appeals of job classifications and requests for new classifications which the Appeals Committee might act upon.

In response to a question by Chairman Connors, Mr. Peeters responded that the Appeals Committee will report its recommended changes to the Service Committee based upon its review of appeals made by legislative employees. He stated that the Appeals Committee will look at all factors and make decisions for each factor so that changes will correlate with points allocated. He commented that the Committee believes it will be ready to report to the Service Committee by the Service Committee's August meeting. He noted that some members of the Appeals Committee must be out of town during next week, but the Committee will proceed in order that the report can be finished to conform to the timetable. He added that employees who filed appeals will be able to file comments with the Service Committee based upon the decisions of the Appeals Committee.

Chairman Connors asked whether Mr. Roger Gallentine, Consultant from Arthur Young & Co., will be present at the Service Committee meeting when it considers the Appeals Committee's report. Mr. Peeters responded that if the Service Committee desires that Mr. Gallentine be present, he will be invited.

Senator Holt moved that the Service Committee receive and file the status report and the additional rules. Senator Wells seconded the motion, and it carried.

MERIT SALARY INCREASES - LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAU

Mr. Peeters stated that he had distributed to Committee members salary information for employees of the Legislative Service Bureau and would be granting merit salary increases within the guidelines adopted by the Service Committee. He stated that he is not requesting any changes in job classifications until a decision has been made on comparable worth. He noted that the merit increase information for the Iowa Code Office was submitted at the June Service Committee meeting. Senator Wells moved that the Service Committee receive and file the report. The motion was seconded by Representative Jochum and carried.

PERSONNEL REPORT - COMPUTER SUPPORT BUREAU

Mr. Scharf asked that the Service Committee request approval from the Legislative Council for the employment of Ms. Anne C. Nolan as Software Analyst in the Computer Support Bureau at Pay Grade 34, step 1. He commented that Ms. Nolan has both Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Computer Science. Senator Wells moved that the Service Committee recommend that the Legislative Council approve Ms. Nolan's employment, and the motion carried.

PERSONNEL REPORT - IOWA CODE OFFICE AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAU

Chairman Connors recognized Mr. Peeters for a status report on Code publication. Mr. Peeters stated that he has been interviewing applicants in order to fill vacancies in the Iowa Code Office since April and it has been a lengthy process since there were many applicants. He asked that the Service Committee recommend that the Legislative Council approve the employment of the following:

1. Mr. Richard Schulze as Code Indexer at Pay Grade 26, step 1.
2. Ms. Marilyn Sychra as Assistant Indexer at Pay Grade 18, step 1.
3. Ms. Sarah Cartwright as Administrative Assistant at Pay Grade 18, step 1.

Mr. Peeters also asked that the Service Committee recommend that the Legislative Council approve the employment of Ms. Kathaleen Miklus as Chief Bill Clerk in the Legislative Service Bureau at Pay Grade 15, step 4. He also commented that a Legislative Text Processor has resigned and steps will be taken to fill the vacancy.

CODE PUBLICATION

With regard to Code publication, Mr. Peeters commented that the governmental reorganization bill has meant that the workload for publication of the 1987 Code will be increased by approximately 50% and there is a similar increase in Rules publication activity since all rules must be changed to conform to the Governmental Reorganization Act. He commented that the employees of the Iowa Code Office have worked overtime in order to complete and disseminate the Iowa Administrative Bulletin. Mr. Peeters stated that he will bring before the Legislative Council a request for approval of the format of the Session Laws as required by law.

Representative Jochum moved that the Service Committee receive and file the Code Publication Status Report and that the Committee recommend that the Legislative Council approve the employment of the individuals in the Iowa Code Office and the Legislative Service Bureau. The motion was adopted.

STATUS OF CITIZENS' AIDE SUBPOENA POWER

Mr. Angrick reviewed for Committee members the activities of the Office of Citizens' Aide with regard to the use of subpoena power by the Citizens' Aide. He noted that he had requested information from the Department of Human Services about child abuse information and was denied access because the records were confidential. He commented that he had sought to obtain the information using the subpoena power and had taken the matter to court in order to have the subpoena upheld. Mr. Angrick stated that he has worked out a compromise with the Department of Human Services through the Assistant Attorney General. The compromise recognizes that the Citizens' Aide has access through subpoena power to obtain information to which the office would not otherwise have access. He stated that the Office of Citizens' Aide is asked to hold the information as confidential in the same manner as a custodial agency. He commented that the order will be presented to the District Court on either July 17th or July 18th and will be resolved upon the signing of the document. In response to a question from Senator Coleman, who was present at the meeting, Mr. Angrick stated that if he gains access to information that is confidential, his dissemination of the information is subject to the same requirements as the custodian of the records. Senator Holt moved that the Service Committee receive and file Mr. Angrick's report, and the motion was adopted.

DETERMINATION OF PROCEDURE FOR ANNUAL SALARY REVIEW FOR LEGISLATIVE AGENCY DIRECTORS

Chairman Connors stated that he had asked that discussion of a procedure for annual salary review for legislative agency directors be placed upon the agenda. He recognized Representative Stromer who asked whether any Legislative Council member visits with the agency directors on an annual basis in order to review that chief officer's performance and recommend annual salary increases. Chairman Connors responded in the negative, commenting that the only person to recommend a salary increase for an agency director is that director himself. Representative Stromer moved that the Legislative Council appoint a committee with representatives from both parties to meet with each of the four legislative agency directors to discuss the activities of the agency, the performances of the agency heads, and salaries of the agency heads including salaries of comparable positions in governmental agencies and the private sector. The committee would then make salary recommendations and file a report with the Service Committee and the Legislative Council. Senator Wells moved that Representative Stromer's motion be amended to specify that the Committee consist of the four leaders of the General Assembly. Senator Wells' motion was adopted, and the original motion, as amended, was adopted.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL BUREAU PROPOSAL CONCERNING LEGISLATIVE
OVERSIGHT

Mr. Prouty stated that Senate File 2175 provided for increasing legislative oversight. He recommended that legislative oversight be expanded through the budgeting process. He requested that the Service Committee recommend that the Legislative Council give authorization to the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to begin interviewing and hiring additional legislative analysts and a data systems analyst as outlined in a proposal distributed to Committee members. Copies of the proposal may be obtained from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau.

Senator Holt asked whether the savings realized from the legislative oversight would justify the extra expense. Mr. Prouty responded that he believes that the additional cost would be recovered many times over.

Representative Stromer asked whether Mr. Prouty wishes to employ eight additional people. Mr. Prouty commented that that number is the maximum number, and the cost he has proposed is a full year's cost, so the first year cost would not be that high. He commented that the additional legislative oversight would be conducted within the budget subcommittee efforts using two employees for each budget subcommittee instead of one so that both financial and program analysis could be conducted.

Representative Stromer asked whether Mr. Prouty's proposal is similar to the operations of the Office of Management and Budget in the federal government. He noted that the OMB may completely revise the President's budget proposal for an agency. Mr. Prouty responded that he is not familiar with the OMB organization, and in response to Representative Stromer's second comment about budget recommendations, he suggested that parts of an agency's budget may be redeveloped, but the entire budget would not. Representative Stromer moved that Mr. Prouty's proposal be referred to the Legislative Procedures Committee. Senator Holt seconded the motion, and it carried.

The Service Committee adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANE BOLENDER
Senior Research Analyst