



MINUTES

International Relations Committee

Monday, March 14, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Kevin Kinney
Senator Carrie Koelker
Senator Zach Nunn

Representative Terry C. Baxter, Chairperson
Representative Ako Abdul-Samad
Representative Jeff Shipley
Representative Kristin Sunde

LSA CONTACTS: Organizational staffing and minutes provided by: Joseph McEniry, Senior Legal Counsel, 515.210.2298, joseph.mceniry@legis.iowa.gov.

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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 and Adjournment. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Baxter at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 14, 2022, in Room 116 of the State Capitol Building in Des Moines. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

II. International Fund Presentation

Mr. Bob Lamberti, Legislative Information Office, provided background and updated information about moneys in the International Fund (fund) which is available to members of the General Assembly for the purchase of gifts for international visitors. A maximum of \$10,000 is deposited into the fund on a biennial basis. If the moneys in the fund are not expended during a biennium, the remaining moneys in the fund revert and become unavailable for expenditure. Prior approval must be obtained before a member of the General Assembly purchases a gift for an international visitor using the moneys in the fund.

III. Committee Discussion

Committee discussion ensued about purchasing gifts for international visitors before the moneys in the fund become unavailable for expenditure. The committee also discussed options for future meeting agendas including having representatives of immigrant communities who have settled in this state make presentations to the committee.