



MINUTES

Legislative Council

Thursday, August 14, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Tony Bisignano
Senator Dan Dawson
Senator William A. Dotzler Jr.
Senator Izaah Knox
Senator Carrie Koelker
Senator Tim Kraayenbrink
Senator Ken Rozenboom
Senator Amy Sinclair
Senator Janice Weiner
Senator Cindy Winckler

Representative Pat Grassley, Chairperson
Representative Austin Baeth
Representative Sean Bagniewski
Representative Jane Bloomingdale
Representative Bobby Kaufmann
Representative Brian Meyer
Representative Gary M. Mohr
Representative Ryan Weldon
Representative Ross Wilburn
Representative John H. Wills
Representative Matt W. Windschitl

LSA CONTACTS: Organizational staffing provided by: Timothy McDermott, Secretary to the Legislative Council, 515.281.8090, and John Hegggen, Legal Services Division Director, 515.725.7827; Minutes prepared by: Joseph McEniry, Division Administrator, 515.281.3189

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- I. Procedural Business
- II. Consideration of the Report of the Service Committee
- III. Consideration of the Report of the Studies Committee
- IV. Attachments



I. Procedural Business

Call to Order. The first meeting of the 2025-2026 Legislative Council was called to order by Temporary Chairperson Grassley at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, August 14, 2025, in Room 22, State Capitol, Des Moines, Iowa. Senators Bisignano, Knox, Weiner, and Winkler, and Representative Baeth attended the meeting via telecommunications connection. Temporary Vice Chairperson Whitver and Representative Brown-Powers were excused. Copies of the membership of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Council committees are attached to these minutes as Attachment A.

Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Senator Sinclair moved that Temporary Chairperson Grassley and Temporary Vice Chairperson Whitver be elected chairperson and vice chairperson, respectively. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Adoption of Rules. Senator Sinclair moved adoption of the proposed Rules for the Legislative Council, and the motion was approved by a voice vote. The rules as adopted, are attached to these minutes as Attachment B.

Minutes of Prior Meeting. Senator Sinclair moved that the minutes of the Legislative Council meeting of November 12, 2024, be approved. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Consideration of Reports. Legislative Council actions are summarized in these minutes.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

II. Consideration of the Report of the Service Committee

Chairperson Grassley recognized Senator Sinclair for consideration of the Report of the Service Committee. The report contains annual personnel reports from the Legislative Services Agency and the Office of the Ombudsman, including recommended promotions. The report recommends the Legislative Council approve the proposed budgets for FY 2026 for the Legislative Services Agency and the Office of the Ombudsman. The report recommends the Legislative Council approve the proposed changes to the Legislative Council Policies and Procedures concerning various leaves available to employees, nonpartisan participation guidelines, and the removal of an outdated example that may be adopted for purposes of agency policies and procedures. The report is attached to these minutes as Attachment C.

III. Consideration of the Report of the Studies Committee

Chairperson Grassley recognized Senator Sinclair for consideration of the Report of the Studies Committee. The report recommends that the Legislative Council approve permanent statutory committees established by law for the 2025 Interim and the establishment of two interim study committees. Senator Sinclair moved adoption of the report, and the motion was approved by a voice vote. The report is attached to these minutes as Attachment D.

IV. Attachments

- A. Legislative Council Membership and Legislative Council Committee Membership
- B. Iowa Legislative Council Rules
- C. Report of the Service Committee
- D. Report of the Studies Committee

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEES
2025-2026**

IOWA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Senator Jack Whitver, Vice Chairperson
Senator Tony Bisignano
Senator Dan Dawson
Senator William A. Dotzler Jr.
Senator Izaah Knox
Senator Carrie Koelker
Senator Tim Kraayenbrink
Senator Ken Rozenboom
Senator Amy Sinclair
Senator Janice Weiner
Senator Cindy Winckler

Speaker Pat Grassley, Chairperson
Representative Austin Baeth
Representative Sean Bagniewski
Representative Jane Bloomingdale
Representative Timi M. Brown-Powers
Representative Bobby Kaufmann
Representative Brian Meyer
Representative Gary M. Mohr
Representative Ryan Weldon
Representative Ross Wilburn
Representative John H. Wills
Representative Matt W. Windschitl

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Representative John H. Wills, Chairperson
Senator Jack Whitver, Vice Chairperson
Senator Amy Sinclair
Senator Janice Weiner
Representative Shannon Lundgren
Representative Heather Matson

SERVICE COMMITTEE

Speaker Pat Grassley, Chairperson
Senator Jack Whitver, Vice Chairperson
Senator Amy Sinclair
Senator Janice Weiner
Representative Brian Meyer
Representative Matt W. Windschitl

CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Senator Tim Kraayenbrink, Co-Chairperson
Representative Gary M. Mohr, Co-Chairperson
Senator Izaah Knox
Senator Carrie Koelker
Senator Janet Petersen
Senator Dan Zumbach
Representative Sean Bagniewski
Representative Jacob Bossman
Representative Brian Meyer
Representative Ray Sorensen

STUDIES COMMITTEE

Speaker Pat Grassley, Chairperson
Senator Jack Whitver, Vice Chairperson
Senator William A. Dotzler Jr.
Senator Ken Rozenboom
Senator Amy Sinclair
Senator Janice Weiner
Representative Heather Matson
Representative John H. Wills
Representative Elizabeth Wilson
Representative Matt W. Windschitl

FISCAL COMMITTEE

Senator Tim Kraayenbrink, Co-chairperson
Representative Gary M. Mohr, Co-chairperson
Senator Tony Bisignano
Senator Dan Dawson
Senator Janet Petersen
Senator Dan Zumbach
Representative Timi M. Brown-Powers
Representative Dave Jacoby
Representative Bobby Kaufmann
Representative Shannon Latham

HEALTH POLICY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Senator, Co-chairperson
Representative Ann Meyer, Co-chairperson
Senator Mark Costello
Senator Molly Donahue
Senator Mike Klimesh
Senator Sarah Trone Garriott
Representative Austin Baeth
Representative Shannon Lundgren
Representative Carter F. Nordman
Representative Josh Turek

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEES
2025-2026**

**Attachment A,
continued**

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Representative Eddie Andrews, Chairperson

Senator Annette Sweeney, Vice Chairperson

Senator Kevin Alons

Senator William A. Dotzler, Jr.

Senator Jesse Green

Senator Janice Weiner

Representative Ken Croken

Representative Jon Dunwell

Representative Ruth Ann Gaines

Representative Thomas D. Gerhold

Representative Helena Hayes

Representative Barb Kniff McCulla

Representative Elinor A. Levin

Representative Mary Lee Madison

Representative Mark I. Thompson

ADOPTED RULES

IOWA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2025-2026

1. Thirteen members shall constitute a quorum.
2. At least thirteen affirmative votes are required for final action on any motion except a motion to recess or adjourn.
3. A substitute motion may be offered in lieu of a pending motion at any time unless the question has been called on the pending motion. A substitute motion takes precedence over any pending amendment to the original motion and, if adopted, disposes of the original motion and any pending amendments to the original motion.
4. Whenever Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure does not conflict with the rules specifically adopted by the Council, Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure shall govern the deliberations of the Council.
5. Meetings shall be set by motion before adjournment, or by call of the Council Chairperson with the approval of the Vice Chairperson if meetings are necessary before the date set in the motion.
6. Rules may be changed by a majority vote of the Council as provided in Rule 2.
7. The Council upon its motion may create committees in addition to those provided by statute to carry out its duties and shall designate the members of those committees. The committees shall include members of both political parties. The actions of the committees shall be reported to the Council at each meeting.
8. Legislative Council committees shall be organized so that a majority of all members of a committee shall constitute a quorum and an affirmative vote of at least a majority of all members of a committee shall be required for final action on any motion except a motion to recess or adjourn. However, for the International Relations Committee, a majority of the committee members of each house shall constitute a quorum and a majority of the committee members of each house shall be required for final action on any motion except a motion to recess or adjourn.
9. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint the members of the majority and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives shall appoint the members of the minority to interim study committees created by the Legislative Council or by statute or resolution.
10. If the appointing authority for members of permanent legislative committees, committees created under Rule 7, statutory bodies, and other bodies is the Legislative Council, the Speaker of the House, Majority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives, shall make the appointment or appointments.

Adopted: August 14, 2025

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE COMMITTEE
TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL****August 14, 2025**

The Service Committee of the Legislative Council met on August 14, 2025, and makes the following report and recommendations to the Legislative Council for approval:

I. PERSONNEL REPORTS

A. The Service Committee approves the annual personnel report from the Legislative Services Agency and recommends that the following employees be promoted, subject to performance review with approval of and effective date set by the director of the agency:

- Lucas Saunders, from Administrative Services Officer, grade 23, to Administrative Services Officer 1, grade 26.
- Carmen Gomez, from Finance Officer 1, grade 24, to Finance Officer 2, grade 27.
- Jazzaray James, from Administrative Services Assistant, grade 20, to Administrative Services Officer, grade 23.
- Julie McAllister, from Administrative Services Assistant, grade 20, to Administrative Services Officer, grade 23.
- Paul Dawn, from Computer Systems Analyst, grade 29, to Computer Systems Analyst 1, grade 32.
- Alex Tath, from Computer Systems Engineer, grade 29, to Computer Systems Engineer 1, grade 32.
- Garry Martin, from Fiscal Legislative Analyst, grade 27, to Fiscal Legislative Analyst 1, grade 29.
- Joey Lovan, from Fiscal Legislative Analyst 1, grade 29, to Fiscal Legislative Analyst 2, grade 32.
- Xavier Leonard, from Fiscal Legislative Analyst 1, grade 29, to Fiscal Legislative Analyst 2, grade 32.
- Louie Hoehle, from Fiscal Legislative Analyst, grade 27, to Fiscal Legislative Analyst 1, grade 29.
- Nathan Moore, from Fiscal Legislative Analyst 1, grade 29, to Fiscal Legislative Analyst 2, grade 32.
- Austin Brinks, from Fiscal Legislative Analyst 2, grade 32, to Fiscal Legislative Analyst 3, grade 35.
- Lora Vargason, from Fiscal Legislative Analyst 2, grade 32, to Fiscal Legislative Analyst 3, grade 35.
- Marie Nalan, from Administrative Services Assistant, grade 20, to Administrative Services Officer, grade 23.

- Andrew Rosenblum, from Administrative Services Assistant, grade 20, to Administrative Services Officer, grade 23.
- Scott Magnuson, from Administrative Services Officer 2, grade 29, to Administrative Services Officer 3, grade 32.
- Steven Long, from Administrative Services Officer, grade 23, to Administrative Services Officer 1, grade 26.
- Tanner Wieser, from Administrative Services Officer, grade 23, to Administrative Services Officer 1, grade 26.
- Olin Meinders, from Administrative Services Assistant, grade 20, to Administrative Services Officer, grade 23.
- Gillian Mohn, from Administrative Services Assistant, grade 20, to Administrative Services Officer 23.
- JD Arnett, from Legal Counsel 2, grade 35, to Senior Legal Counsel, grade 38.
- Sarah Carpenter, from Legal Counsel, grade 30, to Legal Counsel 1, grade 32.
- Adrienne Seusy, from Legal Counsel 2, grade 35, to Senior Legal Counsel, grade 38.
- Liz Hadwiger, from Legal Counsel, grade 30, to Legal Counsel 1, grade 32.
- Seth Bohstedt, from Legal Counsel, grade 30, to Legal Counsel 1, grade 32.
- Dan Gough, from Legal Counsel 2, grade 35, to Senior Legal Counsel, grade 38.
- Tyler Heeren, from Legal Counsel 2, grade 35, to Senior Legal Counsel, grade 38.
- Kelsie Willert, from Capitol Tour Guide Supervisor 1, grade 22, to LIO Officer 1, grade 24.

B. The Service Committee approves the annual personnel report from the Office of Ombudsman and recommends that the following employee be promoted, subject to performance review with approval of and effective date set by the Ombudsman:

- Phillip Brown, from Assistant Ombudsman 1, grade 29, to Assistant Ombudsman 2, grade 32.

II. CENTRAL STAFF AGENCY FY 2026 BUDGETS

The Service Committee recommends that the Legislative Council approve the proposed budgets for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, pursuant to Code section 2.12, as submitted by the following agencies:

- Legislative Services Agency
- Office of Ombudsman

III. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Service Committee recommends that the Legislative Council approve the proposed changes to the Legislative Council Policies and Procedures concerning holiday leave, immediate

family care leave, voluntary blood donation leave, parental leave, agency policy examples, and penalties for unauthorized partisan political participation.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Pat Grassley, Chairperson

REPORT OF THE STUDIES COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

August 14, 2025

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council met on August 14, 2025, and makes the following report for approval by the Legislative Council:

Guidelines. That the attached guidelines for 2025 and 2026 interim studies be adopted by the Legislative Council.

2025 Studies. That the attached proposal for studies for the 2025 Interim be adopted by the Legislative Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Speaker Pat Grassley

Chairperson

GUIDELINES FOR INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEES

2025-2026 INTERIMS Adopted August 14, 2025

ADOPTION OF RULES

Interim study committees must have a majority of the members representing each house voting affirmatively in order to adopt rules.

COMPENSATION OF PUBLIC MEMBERS

Persons serving as public members of study committees are eligible to receive actual expenses only, if they are not eligible for expense reimbursement by an organization that they represent. In order for a public member representing an organization to be eligible to receive actual expenses, the organization must submit a letter to the Legislative Council indicating that the public member is not eligible for the reimbursement from the organization. Payment of the expenses is subject to the approval of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Legislative Council.

STAFF WORK FOR PUBLIC MEMBERS

After consultation with, as appropriate, the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) Director and legislative leadership, a study committee chair may authorize research or legislative drafting work by the LSA for public members of study committees.

APPROVAL OF NOMINEES

Public members of study committees may be nominated by designated organizations, subject to Legislative Council approval or subject to the approval of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Legislative Council in consultation with the Minority Leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Any change in membership numbers and voting status of the members of a legislative interim study body approved by the Legislative Council requires the approval of the Studies Committee and Legislative Council or legislative leadership.

APPROVAL OF ACTIONS

A majority vote of a study committee's voting members present is necessary to carry any action; however, recommendations to the Legislative Council or General Assembly must be adopted with the affirmative votes of a majority of the committee's members of each house.

VOTING BY PUBLIC MEMBERS

Unless otherwise provided by the General Assembly or the Legislative Council, public members of study committees are nonvoting.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AND MEETINGS OUTSIDE DES MOINES

Any additional meeting or a meeting or public hearing by a legislative committee held outside of Des Moines requires the prior approval of the Studies Committee or legislative leadership.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

When authorization is given for a study committee to hold a public hearing, the committee may hold one hearing as a body or individual members may each hold a public hearing or groups of two or more members may hold public hearings. However, for each authorized public hearing, no members of the study committee may receive compensation for attendance at more than one session.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES FOR SPEAKERS AND CONSULTING WORK

Any expenditure by a study committee for a speaker or presentation or for any other purpose either requires the prior approval of the Studies Committee and Legislative Council, or legislative leadership, or requires inclusion of the expenditure in a budget proposed by the study committee and approved by the Studies Committee and the Legislative Council, or legislative leadership. Contractual consulting work for a study committee requires the prior approval of the Studies Committee and the Legislative Council. Expenditures shall only be made in accordance with legislative expenditure policies and procedures.

SCHEDULING GUIDELINES

For the 2025 Interim, the deadline for completion of interim study committee meetings is November 21, 2025, and for the 2026 Interim, the deadline is December 11, 2026. An interim study committee must meet the deadline or receive an exemption or a revised deadline date from the Legislative Council or legislative leadership.

2025 Legislative Interim Studies

A. Statutory Committees

1. State Government Efficiency Review Committee (Iowa Code §4A.6(2)(a))

Charge: The committee is required to establish a schedule for the committee to review one-fourth of all boards, commissions, committees, councils, panels, review teams, or foundations each calendar year between calendar years 2025 and 2029 until each has been reviewed, and shall review each board, commission, committee, council, panel, review team, or foundation every four years thereafter. The committee shall prepare and submit a report of its findings and recommendations by December 21 of each year.

Members: 3 Senate/3 House/1 Employee of the Office of the Governor/The Director of the Department of Management or Designee/The Director of the Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing or Designee

Meeting Days: As approved by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Council.

2. Public Retirement Systems Committee (Iowa Code §97D.4)

Charge: The committee is a permanent legislative committee that is required to review and evaluate all public retirement systems in place in Iowa, including the Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System (IPERS), the Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa (Iowa Code chapter 411), the Department of Public Safety Peace Officers' Retirement System (PORS), and the Judicial Retirement System. The committee typically meets during the legislative interim of odd-numbered years.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: As approved by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Council.

3. Health Policy Oversight Committee (Iowa Code §2.45(5))

Charge: The committee is a permanent legislative committee under the Legislative Council. Duties include providing oversight for Medicaid managed care, ensuring effective and efficient administration of the program, addressing stakeholder concerns, monitoring program costs and expenditures, and making recommendations to the General Assembly.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: As approved by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Council.

B. Other Committees

1. All-Terrain Vehicles and Off-Road Utility Vehicles on Highways Interim Study Committee (2025 Iowa Acts, Senate File 659, § 40)

Charge: The study committee is to examine policy matters and recommend statutory changes relating to the operation of all-terrain vehicles and off-road utility vehicles on highways. The study committee shall submit its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by January 12, 2026.

Members: 3 Senate/3 House

Meeting Days: As approved by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Council

2. Subacute Mental Health Care Services Interim Study Committee (2025 Iowa Acts, Senate File 659, § 41)

Charge: The study committee is required to review and make recommendations related to the provision of subacute mental health care services. The study committee shall submit its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by January 12, 2026.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: As approved by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Council.