



Iowa General Assembly

2007 Committee Briefings

Legislative Services Agency – Legal Services Division

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/asp/Committees/Committee.aspx?id=49>

STUDIES COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Meeting Dates: [June 13, 2007](#)

Purpose. *This compilation of briefings on legislative interim committee meetings and other meetings and topics of interest to the Iowa General Assembly, written by the Legal Services Division staff of the nonpartisan Legislative Services Agency, describes committee activities or topics. The briefings were originally distributed in the Iowa Legislative Interim Calendar and Briefing. Official minutes, reports, and other detailed information concerning the committee or topic addressed by a briefing can be obtained from the committee's Internet page listed above, from the Iowa General Assembly's Internet page at <http://www.legis.state.ia.us>, or from the agency connected with the meeting or topic described.*

STUDIES COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

June 13, 2007

Chairperson: Senator Michael E. Gronstal

Vice Chairperson: Representative Mary Mascher

Overview. The Studies Committee considered mandates and proposals for 2007 Interim studies contained in legislation and other requests, and recommended the actions listed in this briefing. The recommendations were approved by the Legislative Council.

Studies Deadline. The deadline for completion of the 2007 Interim studies is November 26, 2007.

2007 Interim Studies. Studies were authorized for the 2007 Interim with the indicated number of members and meeting days to address the following topics:

A. Studies Mandated by Law and Permanent Committee

Legislative Property Tax Study Committee (2007 Iowa Acts, S.F. 601, § 127)

Charge. The Legislative Property Tax Study Committee is established for the 2007 and 2008 Interims to perform a comprehensive review of the property tax system.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House/9 nonvoting members appointed by leaders, including one who is engaged in economic development activities in the state/3 nonvoting executive branch agency members appointed by the Governor.

Meeting Days. 3

Legislative Commission on Affordable Health Care Plans for Small Businesses and Families. (2007 Iowa Acts, H.F. 909, §§ 99, 127, and 128)

Charge. The commission is created by legislation to review, analyze, and make recommendations by December 2007 on a broad spectrum of issues relating to the affordability of health care for Iowans. The legislation creates a Health Care Data Research Advisory Council to assist the commission with research, analysis, and other functions. The legislation appropriates \$500,000 for FY 2007-2008 to the Legislative Services Agency to support the work of the commission and council. To accomplish its charge, the commission is authorized to procure consultation and other support directly through the advisory council or through exclusive contracts with other entities able to perform in the short time frame provided for the study, subject to legislative expenditure guidelines. The commission is authorized to expend moneys from the appropriation made in Code § 2.12 to pay the June expenses of commission members and staff to attend the commission's first meeting and a health care conference in Des Moines sponsored by the University of Iowa's College of Public Health, subject to all expenditure guidelines otherwise applicable to the commission. Such expenditures may be offset by a reduction in the \$500,000 appropriation for FY 2007-2008.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House/9 public members, as designated in legislation plus a representative of the Iowa Pharmacy Association, appointed by leaders/5 consumers appointed by the Governor/3 agency directors or designees. Only agency directors or designees are nonvoting members, with final recommendations subject to approval by legislator members per interim committee study guidelines. The appointing authority for legislator members of each caucus may designate a legislator from the same caucus to act as an alternate to attend official meetings of the commission for an absent

legislator member.

Meeting Days. 7 plus 3 public hearings

TIME-21 Transportation Funding Study Committee. (2007 Iowa Acts, H.F. 932, § 8)

Charge. Address the revenue needs of the Transportation Investment Moves the Economy in the Twenty-first Century (TIME-21) Fund created in 2007 Iowa Acts, H.F. 932, for funding of roads and highways.

Members. 4 Senate/4 House

Meeting Days. 2

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

Charge. 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 (Code chapter 411), the Department of Public Safety Peace Officers' Retirement System (PORS), the Judicial Retirement System, and TIAA-CREF.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. 3

B. Other Interim Studies

Criminal Code Reorganization Study Committee.

Charge. Meet during the 2007 and 2008 Interims to consider proposals for criminal code revisions, reorganization, and updates.

Members. 3 Senate/3 House/8 voting public members appointed by leaders to represent each of the following: a professor from the University of Iowa College of Law, a professor from Drake University Law School, a district court judge, the Iowa Attorney General, the State Public Defender, a representative from the Iowa County Attorneys Association, a representative from the Iowa Board of Parole, and a representative from the Department of Corrections.

Meeting Days. 3

Sustainable Funding For Natural Resources Study Committee.

Charge. Study how best to provide sustainable funding for natural resource needs. Cooperate with the members of the Sustainable Natural Resource Funding Advisory Committee established in 2006 Iowa Acts, chapter 1185, § 43, and other interested persons in performing the study.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. Up to 8

Livestock Odor Study Committee.

Charge. Consider issues relating to odors associated with livestock. Study and make recommendations for additional state funding for research into cost-effective management practices, facilities, equipment, and practices to mitigate odor from livestock production facilities; for an Iowa State University Veterinary Laboratory review of airborne disease research; and for research for utilizing manure and other livestock waste products as sources of nutrient recovery and renewable energy.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. 2

State Prison System Planning Study Committee.

Charge. Consider the recommendations and proposals generated by the state prison system planning addressed by the Department of Corrections and Board of Corrections pursuant to 2006 Iowa Acts, H.F. 2782, § 1.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. 2

Early Care Best Practices Study Committee.

Charge. Review best practices for Iowa's early care system of programs, services, support, or other assistance made available to a parent or other person who is involved with addressing the health and education needs of a child from birth through age five.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. 2

Freedom of Information, Open Meetings, and Public Records Study Committee.

Charge. Review and recommend changes to Iowa's open meetings and public records laws in Code chapters 21 and 22 and the State Archives and Records Act in Code chapter 305.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. 3

Energy Efficiency Study Committee.

Charge. Examine energy efficiency programs under the purview of the Iowa Utilities Board and consider other proposals for improving energy efficiency in the state.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. 2

Home-based Child Care Study Committee.

Charge. Consider options for increasing the number of home-based child care providers who are subject to registration. Not more than \$100,000 is authorized for the costs of research, pilot projects, and other testing of options.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. 2

Skilled Worker Shortage Study Committee.

Charge. Consider educational system improvements and other options to address shortages of skilled workers.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. 2

Animal Feeding of Distillers Dried Grains Study Committee.

Charge. Consider issues related to standards for the distillers dried grains that can be used in formulating rations for livestock.

Members. 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days. 1

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