

F I N A L   R E P O R T

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE GOVERNOR'S ECONOMY  
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
SENATE AND HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEES  
ON STATE GOVERNMENT AND APPROPRIATIONS

January, 1981

The Subcommittee was authorized by the Legislative Council to hold four meetings to study the recommendations of the Governor's Economy Committee. The members of the Subcommittee included the following:

Senator Jack Nystrom, Co-chairperson  
Representative Reid Crawford, Co-chairperson  
Senator Bob Carr  
Senator Richard Drake  
Senator William Palmer  
Senator Forrest Schwengels  
Senator Tom Slater  
Senator Sue Yenger  
Representative James Anderson  
Representative Diane Brandt  
Representative Bill Dieleman  
Representative Richard Groth  
Representative Ray Lageschulte  
Representative Sue Mullins

The first Subcommittee meeting was held on September 18, 1980 and the Subcommittee received testimony from Mr. Ron Mosher, State Comptroller and Mr. Marvin Pomerantz, Chairman of the Governor's Economy Committee, who reviewed the work of the Committee and the extent to which its recommendations are being implemented by executive action. Mr. Pomerantz stressed the recommendations relating to school administrative personnel, a state department of personnel and executive branch reorganization. The Subcommittee reviewed recommendations to establish the Library Commission as the coordinating agency for the regional library system (#131), to revise the fees for and frequency of elevator inspection (#307) and to establish a state department of human rights (#282) but did not make legislative recommendations.

The Subcommittee held its second meeting on October 13, 1980 and reviewed the following recommendations:

#5. Transfer of the Building Code from the Office for Planning and Programming to the Department of Public Safety.

#14. Revision of licenses and inspection fees of the Department of Agriculture.

- #37. Increasing the scope of the Capitol Planning Commission.
- #38. Requiring five-year capital expense budgets.
- #58. Transfer solar energy research activities to the state universities.
- #60. Revise statutes for art acquisition in public buildings.
- #65. Increase dollar limits requiring hearings for construction projects.
- #66. Reduce retained construction funds to five percent.
- #69. Shorten time requirements for project completions.
- #71. Consolidate construction review functions.
- #115. Eliminate administrative tax allowances.
- #116. Include state credits and individual remittances in county budgets.
- #117. Adjust interest rate for delinquent taxes.
- #120. Improve filing procedures to consolidate processing.
- #121. Increase penalties for delinquent tax payment.
- #122. Require a three-year bonding period for new sales tax permit holders.
- #123. Modify application requirements for homestead and military credits on real estate taxes.

The Subcommittee held its third meeting on November 12, 1980. In addition to drafts of recommendations reviewed at previous meetings the Subcommittee reviewed the following recommendations:

- #6. University funding through State Demographic Center.
- #36. Exclusion of Public Employee Relations Board employees from bargaining unit.
- #114. Bargaining unit duplication.
- #252. Department of Health copy charges.
- #279. Repeal Substance Abuse Advisory Council.
- #294. Repeal insurance company annual report publication.

#298. Compensation of Beer and Liquor Control Council.

#314. Transfer Highway Safety Program to Department of Transportation.

#330. Transfer Crime Commission functions to Department of Public Safety.

#376. Establish Department of Professional and Occupational Licensing.

#385. Eliminate Real Estate Apprentice Salespersons license.

The Subcommittee held its fourth meeting on December 1, 1980. In addition to bills previously requested the Subcommittee considered the following recommendations:

#1. Budget Allotment Process.

#12. Biennial Department of Agriculture licenses.

#40. Establish a Stores and Inventory Section in Department of General Services.

#100. Eliminate property tax receipts.

#102. Record retention requirements.

#211. Disbursement of food stamps.

#251. Eliminate annual barbershop and beauty salon inspections.

#287. Establish a Department of Financial Institutions.

#291. Revise Department of Insurance fees.

#309. Transfer OSHA Review Commission to Industrial Commissioner.

#310. Department of Transportation Director appointed by Governor.

#312. Department of Transportation staffing levels.

#325. Transfer vehicle theft from Department of Transportation to Department of Public Safety.

#333. Consolidate administrative services in Department of Environmental Quality.

#342. State Conservation Commission Director appointed by Governor.

- #343. Structure of the State Conservation Commission.
- #354. Natural Resources Council information program.
- #367. Composition of State Fair Board.
- #368. Merge State Fair Treasurer and Secretary.
- #371. Discontinue state subsidy of State Fair Prizes.

The Subcommittee approved and recommended bills to the Legislative Council and General Assembly. These bills are as follows:

1. A bill to grant the Department of General Services the authority to review the leases of office space and buildings by state agencies away from the seat of government and to require a report on how state leasing practices could be made more effective and efficient.

2. A bill to allow the Department of Agriculture to set the fees for its agricultural licenses by administrative rule. These fees are presently set by statute.

3. A bill to provide the Department of Revenue authority to annually set the interest rate on delinquent taxes for the following calendar year. The interest rate would be based at ninety percent of the prime rate.

4. A bill to eliminate the real estate apprentice salesperson license and requiring the written examination and education requirement must be successfully completed within one year prior to licensure as a real estate salesperson.

5. A bill to allow the Department of Health to set the fees by rule for its certificates, copies of certificates and searches for certificates. The present fee is statutorily set at two dollars.

6. A bill to increase the dollar amount of a construction project that requires a public hearing to 25,000 dollars. The bill applies to counties, school corporations, townships, the Board of Regents, the Department of Social Services, and the State Fair Board.

7. A bill to reduce the percentage of construction funds which a public corporation may retain to make payments for materials furnished and labor performed on a public improvement from ten to five percent.

8. A bill to provide for fourteen-days liquor licenses and beer permits at one-fourth of the fee for the annual license or permit.

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9. A bill to replace the twenty-five hundred dollar annual salary of the members of the Iowa Beer and Liquor Control Council with a forty dollar per diem.

10. A bill to transfer the highway safety program from the Office for Planning and Programming to the Department of Public Safety.

11. A bill to repeal the requirement that the Insurance Department cause the publication of a synopsis of the annual report of nonlife insurance companies upon the payment of a twenty dollar fee.

The Subcommittee also recommended that the Legislative Council establish study during the next interim of the operating structure of the Iowa State Conservation Commission. The Subcommittee made arrangements for the receipt, early in the legislative session, of recommendations from task forces operating from the Office of the Comptroller on the recommendations for a Department of Personnel and a Department of Professional and Occupational Licensing. The Subcommittee requested drafts of several recommendations which it reviewed but did not approve or have opportunity to approve. These drafts will be available for the next General Assembly.