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REPORT OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL COMMITTEE  
TO THE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OCTOBER 13, 1977

The Legislative Fiscal Committee met in the Legislative Fiscal Bureau Conference Room, October 11, 1977. All members were present except Senator Palmer and Representative Welden.

Chairman Gregory Cusack asked for reports from the budget subcommittees and visitation committees on their interim activities to this date. Senator Van Gilst presented the report of the Education Budget Subcommittee. The Education Visitation Committee visited the Department of Public Instruction on August 25, 1977. Discussion covered the \$210,000 two-year federally funded study of the delivery system of Education in the K-12 factor, a historical overview of the Area School Funding, a request that the Legislature take a cautious approach to changes in the area of special education, and the Area IX-Marycrest contract. A suit has been filed against the State by Area IX. Chairman Cusack requested Senator Van Gilst report on the outcome of this action at the next Fiscal Committee meeting.

Senator Nolting reported for the Human Resources Budget Subcommittee. Various subcommittees visited area agencies on alcoholism and aging throughout the state the past six weeks. There will be a meeting of the entire subcommittee later this week to finalize recommendations. Some of the alcoholism agencies have new and inexperienced directors, others have administrative problems. Many aging programs are functioning successfully and are well administrated, while others are weak. Some facilities are excellent, some are poor.

The Natural Resources Committee report was presented by Fiscal Bureau staff, Thom Freyer. The committee has visited Lake Macbride, Squaw Creek Park, Palisades-Kepler State Park, and conducted a Public Hearing on Lake Macbride and Squaw Creek in Cedar Rapids. No recommendations have been prepared at this time.

Representative John Brunow, Co-Chairman of the Social Services Budget Subcommittee, presented a report on the activities of that committee during the interim. They have conducted five Public Hearings on Title XX and have received widely varied response. They visited all the adult penal institutions, with the exception of some farms, and have visited four Mental Health Institutions. Among the concerns of this committee are the disproportionate placement of personnel in some institutions, unused room in some mental institutions, and the operation of Oakdale, particularly the assignment of clients to Oakdale from other institutions.

The Fiscal Committee unanimously approved the Social Services Budget Subcommittee request to shift one and one-half days previously authorized for visitations to be used for Title XX study.

The State Government Budget Subcommittee report was presented by Brenda Lang, Fiscal Bureau staff. A report of the committee listing topics of consideration, overview, and final conclusions and recommendations is attached and

thereby made a part of this report.

Representative Joe Rinas presented the Transportation and Law Enforcement Budget Subcommittee report. There have been two subcommittee meetings; one with the Department of Transportation concerning the cost of consultants used by the department, and the other meeting concerned transferring of fund collection from the Department of Revenue to DOT, the Department of Public Safety's withdrawal of low-band frequency equipment, and personnel assignments of the Highway Patrol.

The subcommittee makes the following recommendations: 1) recommend to the Transportation and Law Enforcement Budget Subcommittee that the appropriation to the Department of Transportation include \$3,000,000 for consultant services. 2) the Department of Public Safety contact the counties that have not started conversion to high-band system to determine their intension as to low-band vs. high-band systems; that Public Safety not renew the mobile licenses for low-band, and that this special subcommittee recommend to the Transportation and Law Enforcement Budget Subcommittee to repeal Chapter 750.7 of the Code, 3) the Department of Public Safety furnish the budget subcommittee with a status and time table to eliminate at least four members of the Headquarters and Detached Patrol Staff and the dollar effect of filling these positions with civilians by November 15, 1977. 4) recommend to the Transportation and Law Enforcement Budget Committee that a standing subcommittee be appointed to study and make recommendations concerning Peace Officer's Retirement, 5) that a bill draft be presented to the Transportation and Law Enforcement Budget Subcommittee to transfer the Interstate fuel tax function from the Department of Revenue to the Department of Transportation.