

REPORT OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL COMMITTEE  
TO THE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OCTOBER 9, 1974.

The Legislative Fiscal Committee met in the Legislative Fiscal Bureau Conference Room at 9:00 a.m. Members present were:

Senator DeKoster, Chairman  
Senator Hill  
Senator Van Gilst  
Representative Den Herder  
Representative Lipsky  
Representative Dunton

Reports were received from the following Visitation Committees:

NATURAL RESOURCES

On September 30, 1974, the committee met with the Natural Resources Council relative to progress on the State Water Plan (HCR 166). They later met with the Governor who assured the committee further study would be given to the budget and progress of the Water Plan. In the afternoon the committee met with the Conservation Commission for discussion on the critical areas bill and bills relating to condemnation of partial interest. Mr. Art Doll, Planning Director, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources spoke on recreational trails. On October 1, 1974, the committee met in Iowa City for a meeting with the Board of Supervisors to discuss the impact of State Park Development on the County road system.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The committee met at the Men's Reformatory at Anamosa on September 18, 1974. The inmate population is now 602, an increase of 100. The committee suggested that perhaps a study should be made concerning the future of correctional facilities in view of the Community Correction system. There is a need of additional staff at the institution in view of the increasing population. On September 19 the committee visited the State Penitentiary at Fort Madison. The penitentiary's vocational and academic program has been merged with that of the area community college, however, there is still a need for additional programs. Concern was expressed over the housing of the most difficult inmates.

EDUCATION

On September 26 the committee visited Westmar College in Le Mars. A private college, Westmar has a current enrollment of 706, 70 to 75% are from Iowa. 50% of the Iowa students enrolled receive the Iowa Tuition Grant. On September 27 the committee visited Dordt College in Sioux Center. Enrollment is 987 and an estimate 174 have accepted the Iowa tuition grant. Grants are awarded to students who are members of a supporting church. Area IV community college was visited in the afternoon. With an enrollment of approximately 520, the largest academic area is the heavy equipment-construction department. A 3/4 mill levy was recently approved by the area voters. They claim to have one of the lowest cost per contact hour programs in the state.

The Fiscal Committee unanimously approved a request from the Natural Resources Visitation Committee to have one additional meeting.

A letter was read from the co-chairmen of the Transportation and Law Enforcement Visitation Committee stating that they did not feel a meeting of the committee was necessary at this time. After some discussion, the Fiscal Committee decided they should meet with the Highway Commission concerning revenue estimates based on the current gas tax rate, the possible forty-two percent inflation rate in construction costs and resultant deficit in Road Use Tax Funds and the substantial cut-back in the five year program.

Senator Hill moved that the Fiscal Committee meet with the Highway Commission on November 14. The motion was approved unanimously.