

REPORT OF THE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL COMMITTEE
TO
THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 13, 1974

The Legislative Fiscal Committee met at the Highway Commission Building in Ames at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 12, 1974. Members present were:

Senator DeKoster, Chairman
Senator Hansen
Senator Hill
Senator Van Gilst
Representative Grassley
Representative Den Herder
Representative Dunton

The Fiscal Committee considered recommendations by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau regarding the appropriations process. The following recommendations were adopted for consideration by the Legislative Council.

1. The number of appropriation bills should be decreased substantially.
2. Target dates should be established for appropriation subcommittees to complete departmental hearings and present budget recommendations to the appropriation chairmen.
3. A committee report should accompany each appropriation bill and contain a clear statement of legislative intent, clearly cross-referenced to budget and budget bill.
4. Time each week should be included in the House and Senate schedule for the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to present current estimates of revenue and appropriations to all interested members of the General Assembly.

The Fiscal Committee unanimously agreed that any member of the committee may attend the Governor's budget hearings and receive per diem and travel expenses while attending the hearings.

During the afternoon session the Fiscal Committee met with the Highway Commission and staff to discuss the revenue estimates and the Road Use Tax Fund based on the current tax structure, the inflation rate in construction and maintenance cost and the effect of these two items relative to the commission's five year program. The Highway Commissioners will submit a proposal to the legislature to obtain additional funds for the Road Use Tax Fund.