

REPORT OF THE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL COMMITTEE
TO THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

JULY 13, 1977

The Legislative Fiscal Committee met in the Legislative Fiscal Bureau Conference Room, July 12, 1977. Present were all members of the Fiscal Committee except Senator Lucas DeKoster, and at the request of the co-chairmen of the Fiscal Committee, representatives from each of the budget subcommittees. Present also were staff from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau.

The main item on the agenda was the matter of an interim work plan for each of the budget subcommittees. While the statute calls for interim work of the Fiscal Committee to be carried out by visitation committees composed of three House members and three Senate members which are specified in accordance with their official position, Senate Concurrent Resolution 27 requires that each of the budget subcommittees present an interim work plan to the Legislative Council. The two chairmen of the budget committee felt that in keeping with the new program of the Legislature in doing interim work through standing committees that perhaps the budget subcommittee should be used wherever practicable in conjunction with the statutory visitation committees. They noted that the work plans presented by the budget subcommittee chairmen had been requested with that philosophy.

In summary, the work plans presented by the budget subcommittee chairmen are as follows:

Transportation and Law Enforcement: The studies by the full committee on Public Transit Assistance and Aeronautics; estimated time - 6 days. Studies by subcommittees on Consulting Cost for DOT, Dubuque Armory, and other areas of concern - 6 meeting days.

Social Services: Studies for the full committee including Juvenile Institutions, Correctional Institutions, Mental Health Institutions, Glenwood-Woodward, Marshalltown, Title XX and District Office Study - 12 meeting days.

Natural Resources: Studies for full committee including Lake McBride, Conservation Commission Program, and Project Review - 4 meeting days.

Regulatory and Finance: Studies for full committee including Fund Transfers, Data Processing, Consumer Price Index for Iowa - 2 meeting days.

Human Resources: The studies for the full committee--Aging, Alcoholism and Drug Abuse throughout the state. It is proposed that the full committee would be divided into two-member subcommittees for a total meeting time of three days for the entire committee. The full committee also requested a one day meeting in October to study the Home Health Care Program.

State Government: There are no studies proposed for the full committee. A subcommittee of six would conduct studies of Legislative membership (Council of State Governments, NCSL), Department of Labor-Inspection Fees and Permits, and General Services-Energy Conservation and the Iowa Building Authority Commission; 3 meeting days.

Education: Studies by the full committee include State University of Iowa and University of Northern Iowa; 3 meeting days. Statutory visitation committee study of DPI, Area Community Colleges, AEA's, Private Colleges, and Regents Institutions; 8 meeting days. The visitation committee plus three additional members would explore a number of subjects proposed by the Education Standing Committee.

Following the presentation of the interim work plans, Senator Kelly made the following motion which passed unanimously:

The Legislative Council be requested to delegate the authority to the Fiscal Committee, as they have in the past, to select and approve Visitation Committee's in-state travel plans.

Following the passage of this motion, there was considerable discussion concerning how the interim activities would be completed. It was the consensus that a plan could be worked out combining the visitation committees along with the budget subcommittee full membership but that the Fiscal Committee would like to limit, by a formula, the interim work plans.

Senator Palmer moved, and the motion passed unanimously, that the chairman of the Fiscal Committee appoint one member from the Fiscal Committee to each of the visitation committees as a liaison member. That the co-chairmen of the budget subcommittees, with the approval of the Fiscal Committee, develop an interim work plan for their respective visitation committee limiting the non-statutory committee members to a maximum of six days paid meetings.

Senator Van Gilst pointed out that in the past the Legislative Council has been asked to authorize the attendance of the four Fiscal Committee members who are not members of the Legislative Council at the annual NCSL meeting. He then put this in motion form. On a division: four ayes, and one present.

Brenda Lang, Legislative Fiscal Bureau Analyst, presented a letter from the State Government Budget Subcommittee relative to combining the judicial retirement study (S.F. 163) and the IPERS study (SJR 11) in an effort to coordinate the two like studies. It was pointed out that combining the two studies is feasible if the time limitation and performance specification of the smaller study is incorporated into the larger IPERS study.

The Fiscal Committee accepted this recommendation and looks to the Legislative Council for a decision as to whether or not this can be done.