

REPORT OF  
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL COMMITTEE  
TO  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 17, 1975

The Legislative Fiscal Committee met in the Legislative Fiscal Bureau Conference Room on Tuesday, September 16, 1975. All members were present except Senators Palmer and Nystrom.

Reports were received on the following meetings held by the Visitation Committees.

EDUCATION

On September 12, 1975, this committee visited the headquarters of I.E.B.N. Tom Ditzel, Executive Director of I.E.B.N., was host to the committee and after a question and answer period, he presented a list of objectives of I.E.B.N. 80% of Iowa's public schools are currently covered by existing transmitters with an estimated 170,000 students receiving instruction via ETV. The "Friends of Educational Broadcasting" group was commended for their efforts on behalf of I.E.B.N. Mr. Ditzel stated that they would like to proceed to a program budget. A tour conducted by staff members emphasized the addition of lighting equipment. It was noted that there is increased cooperation between I.E.B.N. and the Department of Public Instruction. On the afternoon of the 12th, the committee visited the Marshalltown A.E.A. Area 6 serves parts of six counties, 22 public school districts with a total of 23,500 kindergarten through 12th grade pupils. The preschool has received nationwide attention for its fine work and has conducted training sessions. The committee felt the work here was truly outstanding.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The committee met on September 10, 1975, with the Conservation Commission. The status of unemployment benefits claims was discussed. Less than \$5,000 was paid for claims during fiscal years 1973 and 1974. The capital budget was discussed as were suggestions from the staff on ways the capital funding process could be improved. Serious problems are developing concerning the ambulance service and fire protection for commission property. Rathbun hatchery is now in production and the federal hatchery at Manchester will be turned over to the state soon. \$2,500,000 appropriated for the Open Spaces program has been spent or committed. An extension of the reversion date on S.F. 573, the "Green Thumb" appropriation, was requested so the program may operate an entire summer season.

HUMAN RESOURCES

On August 29, 1975, the committee met at the Clarinda Mental Health Institute. A tour of the facility was made. The committee questioned the lack of a formal plan for the future of the facility in view of the decreasing patient load. The cost per patient has doubled from 1968 to 1974. There is no formal in-service training program for the mental health workers at Clarinda and they receive their training by on-the-job experience.

### STATE DEPARTMENTS

A meeting to discuss the Airplane Study was held on September 2, 1975. As a result of this meeting with the director of General Services, the Adjutant General, Vehicle Dispatcher and the director of Department of Transportation, the committee voted to approve and support the administrative efforts of the D.O.T. to proceed immediately with plans of the state airplane pool on a trial basis with the understanding that the Department of Transportation will present actual cost figures and make specific recommendations for legislation. No final determination was made by the committee on their meeting concerning Section 8.39 of the Code which deals with transferring of funds. The committee met with representatives of the State Libraries on September 3, 1975. A tour of the Law Library, Medical Library, and the State Library Commission office was made. At a meeting on the 3rd with the Chairman of the Employment Security Commission and the director of the Unemployment Insurance Division, problems concerning the delay in some persons receiving their unemployment checks was discussed.

### TRANSPORTATION & LAW ENFORCEMENT

On September 9, 1975, the committee met at the headquarters office of the Department of Transportation. After a tour of their facilities, the group traveled to the Ledges State Park to view the park road system. On September 10 the committee met with the Boone County Supervisors. Discussion followed on county road systems and county-wide law enforcement. The next meeting was with the City Council of Webster City. Road maintenance, abandonment of branch railroad lines and county-wide law enforcement were topics discussed.

The status of the case of Sueppel vs. Executive Council is that the final appeal date is September 19, 1975. The Department of Public Safety is preparing a chronological summary of the case to be submitted to the committee with its recommendation for improving the appeal procedure.