

CHAPTER 171
COUNTY STATUTES STUDY COMMITTEE

S. J. R. 9

A JOINT RESOLUTION to create a special study committee on county statutes and to make an appropriation.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. A twelve-member study committee is created to make a comprehensive study of the statutes relating to county corporate government. The committee shall consist of three members of the county government committee of the senate appointed by the president of the senate, three members of the county government committee of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house, one member of the legislative council appointed by the legislative council, four county officials, at least one of whom shall be a county attorney, appointed by the governor and one citizen appointed by the governor. The governor shall appoint the county officials and the citizen member on a bipartisan basis. The legislative members shall be chosen in each house on a bipartisan basis. The county official members shall be chosen as follows: two from counties under twenty-seven thousand four hundred population and two from counties over twenty-seven thousand four hundred population. If a vacancy occurs on the committee, the person or authority originally appointing the member whose position is vacant shall appoint a successor.

Sec. 2. The committee shall organize by choosing officers and adopting rules for conduct of its meetings. With the approval of the legislative council, the committee may employ a secretary and other employees as necessary to conduct its business and may fix their compensation. The committee shall have access to all official records, not otherwise confidential by law, and may hold public hearings, subpoena witnesses and compel the production of books, papers, or other documents pertaining to its investigation and study. Persons appearing before the committee may be paid statutory witness fees or travel expense, as approved by the committee. The committee may appoint subcommittees of its members to hold hearings and conduct investigations in any part of the state. Any member may administer oaths.

Sec. 3. The committee shall review state statutes as they apply to county government and shall recommend appropriate revisions which will implement home rule and facilitate the solution of local problems by local initiative.

Sec. 4. The committee shall make periodic progress reports of the study to the legislative council as required by the legislative council. The legislative council may assign staff, including the staff of the legislative service bureau to the committee. The committee may make comprehensive recommendations to the general assembly by way of code revision bills and other reports.

Sec. 5. The committee may use any existing facility of state government and shall seek cooperation of county officials.

Sec. 6. Legislative members and the citizen member of the committee shall receive per diem and expenses at the same rate as provided for members of the general assembly pursuant to subsection six (6) of section two point ten (2.10) of the Code. The four county officials of the committee may receive the same reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties as is paid legislative members for those expenses.

Sec. 7. The final report of the committee shall be submitted to the governor and to the general assembly no later than thirty days after the convening of the general assembly in 1980, unless it is impossible to complete the project by that date, but no later than thirty days after the convening of the general assembly in 1981. Upon submitting its final report, the committee is discharged.

Sec. 8. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the legislative council the sum of twenty-five thousand (25,000) dollars or so much thereof as necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Compensation and expenses of employees of the committee shall be paid in the manner determined by the committee. Per diem and expenses of legislative members of the committee shall be paid in the same manner as are per diem and expenses of the members of the legislative council.

Approved April 5, 1979

CHAPTER 172

FEDERAL BUDGET BALANCED

S. J. R. 1

A JOINT RESOLUTION for the purpose of requesting appropriate action by the Congress, either acting by consent of two-thirds of both houses or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, calling a constitutional convention to propose an amendment to the federal Constitution to require, with certain exceptions, that the federal budget be balanced.

Whereas, with each passing year this nation becomes more deeply in debt as its expenditures grossly and repeatedly exceed available revenues, so that the public debt now exceeds hundreds of billions of dollars; and

Whereas, the annual federal budget continually demonstrates an unwillingness or inability of both the legislative and executive branches of the federal government to curtail spending to conform to available revenues; and

Whereas, unified budgets do not reflect actual spending because of the exclusion of special outlays which are not included in the budget nor subject to the legal public debt limit; and