



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

Room 412 East, State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin

February 24, 2010
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

[The following is a summary of the February 24, 2010 meeting of the Joint Legislative Council. The file copy of this summary has appended to it a copy of each document prepared for or submitted to the committee during the meeting and a copy of the registration form listing those who attended. A digital recording of the meeting is available on our Web site at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc>.]

Call to Order and Roll Call

Co-Chair Risser called the meeting to order. The roll was called and a quorum noted present.

Co-Chair Risser gave a brief report on the status of the Joint Legislative Council study committees. He mentioned that with the completion of today's meeting, all of this interim's study committees will have reported, including the additional committee established through the recently adopted budget.

Next, Co-Chair Risser noted that public testimony would not be received today and reminded the members that all bills recommended today will be introduced by the Council to the Legislature. These bills will follow the traditional process in the Legislature. Public hearings will be held on these bills in their assigned standing committees. He also noted that due to the lateness of this legislative session, if some bills do not advance in the process, they may be considered for reintroduction next year.

He then called the Council members' attention to a flyer that was distributed at each of their places. The flyer describes an upcoming symposium concerning Wisconsin's response to the current economic issues. Co-Chair Risser said that two very good presenters are set to talk about "The U.S. Economic Outlook and Implications for Wisconsin." The presenters will be Dr. Michael Knetter, Dean of the Wisconsin School of Business, and Mr. Rick Mattoon from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. The event is scheduled for Thursday, March 4, beginning at 8:30 a.m., in Room 412 East.

Also, he added, next month the Council will co-host, with the Council of State Governments' Midwest office, another economic symposium. That symposium, scheduled for March 17, will feature

Dr. Graham Toft, Principal Researcher for GrowthEconomics, Inc., reporting on the Resurgent Midwest, Insurgent Growth Initiative.

Last, Co-Chair Risser reminded the Council members that all Council recommendations require at least 12 votes. The period for voting will not be held open past the scheduled adjournment of today's meeting. Members must be present to vote.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
PRESENT: Sen. Fred Risser and Rep. Marlin Schneider, Co-Chairs; Sens. Alberta Darling, Russell Decker, Scott Fitzgerald, Sheila Harsdorf, Pat Kreitlow, Mark Miller, Judy Robson, Dale Schultz, and Robert Wirsch; and Reps. Joan Ballweg, Terese Berceau, Spencer Black, Jeff Fitzgerald, Dean Kaufert, Tom Nelson, Mark Pocan, Michael Sheridan, Tony Staskunas, and Robin Vos.

COMMITTEE MEMBER
EXCUSED: Sen. Spencer Coggs.

COUNCIL STAFF PRESENT: Terry C. Anderson, Director; Laura Rose, Deputy Director; Anne Sappenfield, Senior Staff Attorney; Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, Staff Attorney; and Kelly Mautz and Wendy Ulrich, Administrative Assistants.

APPEARANCES: Rep. Tamara Grigsby, Chair, Special Committee on Child Welfare Provider Rate Implementation; and Rep. Steve Kestell, Assembly Co-Chair, Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families.

Approval of the Minutes of the Committee's May 20, 2009 Meeting

Co-Chair Risser asked for a motion to approve the May 20, 2009 minutes of the Joint Legislative Council.

Co-Chair Schneider moved, seconded by Rep. Ballweg, that the minutes of the May 20, 2009 meeting be approved. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Committee Report No. 14 of the Special Committee on Child Welfare Provider Rate Implementation

Representative Tamara Grigsby, Chair, Special Committee on Child Welfare Provider Rate Implementation, highlighted the major points in LRB-4257/1 and other recommendations discussed by the Special Committee.

Co-Chair Risser complimented Representative Grigsby for the work of the Special Committee.

After a brief discussion regarding how rates for providers will be determined under current law and under a performance-based contracting system, Co-Chair Risser asked for a motion to approve introduction of LRB-4257/1.

*Co-Chair Schneider moved, seconded by Sen. Miller, that **LRB-4257/1**, relating to elimination of surplus retention limitations for residential care centers for children and youth, group homes, and child welfare agencies that provide rate-based services for the Department of Children and Families or a county department of human services or social services; determination of the rates charged by those providers; establishment of a performance-based contracting system for those providers; and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 21 (Sens. Risser, Darling, Decker, Fitzgerald, Harsdorf, Kreitlow, Miller, Robson, Schultz, and Wirch; and Reps. Schneider, Ballweg, Berceau, Black, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Nelson, Pocan, Sheridan, Staskunas, and Vos); Noes, 0; and Absent, 1 (Sen. Coggs).*

Committee Report No. 13 of the Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families

Senator Lena Taylor, Senate Co-Chair, Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families, was unable to attend today's meeting due to a death in her family. Representative Steve Kestell, Assembly Co-Chair of the committee, described the four bill drafts recommended to the Joint Legislative Council:

1. **LRB-3558/1**, relating to extended juvenile court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years.
2. **LRB-3559/1**, relating to training for foster parents.
3. **LRB-3560/1**, relating to creating expectations for foster children and foster parents and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.
4. **LRB-3561/1**, relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources.

After a brief discussion on requirements for foster parents, the development of expectations for foster children, and funding of child abuse and neglect prevention by counties, Co-Chair Risser asked if there was a motion for introduction *en masse*. Representative Vos asked to have LRB-3561/1 voted on separately, but agreed to have the other three voted on *en masse*. Hearing no further objection:

Co-Chair Schneider moved, seconded by Sen. Schultz, that the following three drafts recommended by the Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families, be introduced en masse:

1. **LRB-3558/1**, relating to extended juvenile court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years.
2. **LRB-3559/1**, relating to training for foster parents.
3. **LRB-3560/1**, relating to creating expectations for foster children and foster parents and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.

The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 21 (Sens. Risser, Darling, Decker, Fitzgerald, Harsdorf, Kreitlow, Miller, Robson, Schultz, and Wirch; and Reps. Schneider, Ballweg, Berceau, Black, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Nelson, Pocan, Sheridan, Staskunas, and Vos); Noes, 0; and Absent, 1 (Sen. Coggs).

*Co-Chair Schneider moved, seconded by Rep. Berceau, that **LRB-3561/1**, relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion passed on a roll call vote of Ayes, 14 (Sens. Risser, Decker, Fitzgerald, Kreitlow, Miller, Robson, Schultz, and Wirch; and Reps. Schneider, Berceau, Nelson, Pocan, Sheridan, and Staskunas); Noes, 6 (Sens. Darling and Harsdorf; and Reps. Ballweg, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, and Vos); and Absent, 2 (Sen. Coggs and Rep. Black).*

[Rep. Black noted that had he been present, he would have voted "Aye."]

Other Business

Co-Chair Risser announced that this concluded the reports of the 2008-09 study committees. He stated that he and Co-Chair Schneider will now begin the review of the many study suggestions that they have received. He noted that there are several very worthy topics that have been brought to their attention.

He clarified that once they have completed their review, a mail ballot will be sent to the Council members asking approval to establish the 2010-11 studies. It is their hope to complete this process by early April so that committees may hold meetings in the early portion of the summer.

Co-Chair Risser thanked the Council members for their attention and participation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

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