

## A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A REPORT AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CONDITION OF THE VARIOUS STATE INSTITUTIONS BY COMMITTEES CONSTITUTED AT THE PRECEDING GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

SECTION 1. That at the conclusion of each session of the General Assembly the President  
2 of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall appoint a committee of one hold-over  
3 Senator and one Representative, giving each of the two leading political parties, as far as  
4 may be practicable, a representation on such committee. There shall be a committee so  
5 appointed for each institution supported and maintained at the expense of the State,  
6 whose duty it shall be to visit said State institutions once in each year of the biennial  
7 period before the beginning of the ensuing General Assembly, and the latter visit shall be  
8 within forty days of the assembling of said last named General Assembly.

SEC. 2. Each of said committees shall arrange by correspondence, the date, without the  
2 knowledge of the institution, when they will meet at such State institution. At the first  
3 meeting they shall organize for work, and shall determine between themselves who shall  
4 keep a record of their proceedings and investigations and prepare the report as hereinafter  
5 provided, and they shall, at the expense of the State, provide themselves with a blank book  
6 on their requisition to the Secretary of State, in which they shall keep a record of all their  
7 doings and conclusions from investigations they shall make at and during such visits ; and  
8 from this record, on or before the first Thursday of the assembling of each ensuing General  
9 Assembly ; they shall prepare and file their report in writing, in two copies, one with the  
10 President of the Senate, and the other with the Speaker of the House, which shall be com-  
11 municated by them without delay to their respective bodies, in order that the Senate and  
12 the House may order, respectively, for the information of their members, as many printed  
13 copies as may be deemed necessary. Said committees shall, also, at the same time, deposit  
14 for safe keeping, their records with the Secretary of State. As soon as such reports shall  
15 be duly filed, as provided, the duties of each of said committees shall be concluded, and the  
16 committees thereby discharged.

SEC. 3. The duties of such committees shall be :

2 *First.* To learn whether the appropriations made by the last General Assembly  
3 are being and have been wisely and economically expended.

4     *Second.* To learn whether they are being and have been expended for the objects  
5 appropriated.

6     *Third.* To learn whether all laws are being and have been complied with in not  
7 contracting indebtedness in excess of the appropriations.

8     *Fourth.* To learn whether there has been any diversion of any money from the spe-  
9 cific purpose for which it was appropriated.

10     *Fifth.* Said committee shall report, also, the names and number of persons employed  
11 by the several institutions, for what purpose employed, and at what salaries; also,  
12 whether any person, so employed, receives or have received, anything in addition to his  
13 salary, in the way of board, rooms, lights, fuel, food or clothing, or anything else, at the  
14 expense of the State.

15     *Sixth.* Said committee shall also report the means of escape from fire, with such rec-  
16 ommendations therein as shall seem proper.

17     *Seventh.* Said committee shall also report and make recommendations concerning  
18 the sanitary condition of such institution.

19     *Eighth.* Said committees shall make all such investigation concerning the several in-  
20 stitutions as to them shall seem proper, for the information of the ensuing General  
21 Assembly, and to this end they may examine any person, under oath, if they shall deem  
22 it necessary, to gain the desired information; may examine the account books and  
23 finances of such institutions, if they shall deem it proper, and shall have the right to  
24 issue subpoenas for persons and papers.

SEC. 4. There shall be no other visiting committees appointed, on behalf of the General  
2 Assembly, otherwise than as provided for by this act, as long as this act shall be in force,  
3 except in a case where a specially urgent necessity may arise.

SEC. 5. The compensation to be paid to the members of the committees herein provided  
2 shall be at the rate of four dollars per diem, during the time he shall be actually engaged,  
3 during each visit, and for no other time, and mileage from and return to his home, by the  
4 shortest practicable route, at the rate provided for each member of the General Assembly.

SEC. 6. This act, being deemed of immediate importance, shall be in force from and  
2 after its publication in the Iowa State Register and the Des Moines Leader, newspapers  
3 published at Des Moines, Iowa.