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S-4/17/02 adopted

APR 4 2002

Laid Over Under Rule 25

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 123
2 BY JACOBS, FOEGE, HEATON, JOHNSON, and OSTERHAUS
3 A Concurrent Resolution requesting the governor
4 to appoint a blue ribbon committee to make
5 recommendations regarding the child welfare,
6 child mental health, and juvenile justice systems
7 in the state of Iowa.
8 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the state of
9 Iowa to help all children in the state become
10 productive adults; and
11 WHEREAS, the number of juvenile court petitions in
12 the state of Iowa is at an all-time high and the
13 number of confirmed child abuse cases in the state of
14 Iowa is also at an all-time high; and
15 WHEREAS, Iowa's child welfare, child mental health,
16 and juvenile justice systems are in a state of crisis
17 where they are unable to provide quality care and
18 services to Iowa's at-risk youth; and
19 WHEREAS, Iowa's current child welfare, child mental
20 health, and juvenile justice systems are in dire need
21 of reorganization; and
22 WHEREAS, the state of Iowa needs to determine the
23 results it desires in caring for abused, neglected,
24 and delinquent children in the state; and
25 WHEREAS, the state of Iowa must develop a system to
26 obtain the desired results for abused, neglected, and
27 delinquent children in the state; NOW THEREFORE,
28 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
29 SENATE CONCURRING, That the governor is requested to
30 establish a blue ribbon committee, for the 2002

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1 legislative interim, to study child welfare, child
2 mental health, and juvenile justice issues in Iowa.
3 The committee shall propose what results Iowa wants
4 for troubled and troubling children and their families
5 in Iowa; recommend a system to achieve these results;
6 propose an easily understood methodology to measure
7 and evaluate these results; review the long-term cost
8 effectiveness of developing outcome measurements;
9 recommend a streamlined system with increased
10 flexibility for the provision of services to children;
11 suggest ways to alleviate administrative barriers to
12 the provision of quality services to children and to
13 blend categorical funding; suggest ways to increase
14 partnership with and to recognize and strengthen the
15 roles of the state and its community-based partners;
16 make proposals to increase the development of
17 innovative services to children; propose ways to
18 provide for community involvement and for stronger
19 guarantees of community, family, and public safety;
20 recommend necessary resources to achieve the desired
21 results; propose ways to eliminate existing and
22 ongoing competition for funding between providers of
23 prevention and treatment services to children; and
24 develop a strategy to balance salaries and funding of
25 the child welfare, child mental health, and juvenile
26 justice systems in the state. The governor is further
27 requested to appoint persons to the blue ribbon
28 committee including board and staff members of public
29 and private agencies involved with child welfare,
30 child mental health, and juvenile justice services,

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1 members of the general assembly, representatives of
2 the department of human services, community members,
3 and consumers of child welfare, child mental health,
4 and juvenile justice services. The blue ribbon
5 committee is requested to submit a report of its
6 findings and recommendations, including proposed
7 legislation, if any, to the governor and to the
8 legislative oversight committee of the legislative
9 council on or before November 1, 2003.

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