

FILED MAY 03 2006

SENATE FILE 2411
BY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3268)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to local governments by creating a local
2 government innovation commission and fund, creating a center
3 for governing excellence, and including an effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SC 2411

1 Section 1. Section 8.64, Code 2005, is amended by striking
2 the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

3 8.64 DEFINITIONS.

4 For purposes of sections 8.65 through 8.68:

5 1. "Commission" means the local government innovation
6 commission.

7 2. "Community-wide area" means a distinct geographical
8 area voluntarily formed by and comprised of counties, cities,
9 or townships, or any combination thereof, all of which possess
10 a degree of autonomy in a varying number of matters. State
11 agencies and school districts may also participate in a
12 community-wide area if joined by a county, city, or township.

13 3. "Department" means the department of management.

14 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 8.65 LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION
15 COMMISSION.

16 1. A local government innovation commission is created
17 consisting of fourteen voting members and four nonvoting
18 members.

19 a. Voting members of the commission shall be appointed for
20 a term of three years as follows:

21 (1) One member representing the executive branch appointed
22 by the governor.

23 (2) One member representing county government appointed by
24 the president of the Iowa state association of counties.

25 (3) One member representing city government appointed by
26 the president of the Iowa league of cities.

27 (4) One member representing community colleges appointed
28 by the president of the Iowa association of community college
29 presidents.

30 (5) One member representing school districts appointed by
31 the president of the Iowa association of school boards.

32 (6) One member representing the councils of governments
33 appointed by the president of the Iowa association of councils
34 of government.

35 (7) The administrator of the homeland security and

1 emergency management division of the Iowa department of public
2 defense.

3 (8) The director of the department of economic development
4 or the director's designee.

5 (9) Two members appointed by the governor both of whom
6 shall possess private business expertise and who are not
7 employees of any level of government.

8 (10) Four members representing the general public, one
9 each appointed by the majority leader of the senate, the
10 minority leader of the senate, the speaker of the house of
11 representatives, and the minority leader of the house of
12 representatives.

13 b. Four nonvoting members of the general assembly shall be
14 appointed for a term of two years commencing at the convening
15 of each general assembly, one each appointed by the majority
16 leader of the senate, the minority leader of the senate, the
17 speaker of the house of representatives, and the minority
18 leader of the house of representatives. However, initial
19 appointments of members under this paragraph shall be made on
20 the effective date of this Act.

21 2. a. Terms of voting members shall begin and end as
22 provided by section 69.19. Any vacancy shall be filled in the
23 same manner as regular appointments are made for the unexpired
24 portion of the regular term.

25 b. Members of the commission shall be allowed their actual
26 and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
27 duties. The members of the commission representing the
28 general public shall also be compensated as provided in
29 section 7E.6. Per diem and expenses paid to commission
30 members shall be paid from moneys appropriated to the local
31 government innovation fund, except that the per diem and
32 expenses of members of the general assembly shall be paid
33 pursuant to section 2.12.

34 c. The commission shall meet in May of each year for the
35 purpose of electing one of its voting members as chairperson.

1 The commission shall meet at the call of the chairperson or
2 when a majority of the voting members of the commission files
3 a written request with the chairperson for a meeting. Written
4 notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be given to
5 each member of the commission.

6 d. A majority of the voting members of the commission
7 constitutes a quorum. Any action taken by the commission must
8 be adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting
9 membership.

10 e. The commission is located for administrative purposes
11 within the department. The department shall provide office
12 space, staff assistance, administrative support, and necessary
13 supplies and equipment to the commission.

14 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 8.66 DUTIES OF COMMISSION.

15 The commission shall do all of the following:

16 1. Promote, encourage, and advance innovation and
17 creativity in local governance.

18 2. Develop an application and review process for local
19 governance plans submitted to the commission by a community-
20 wide area. Results, strategies, and desired outcomes
21 identified by the commission in developing its application and
22 review process shall include but not be limited to the
23 following:

24 a. Cost savings to citizens, in particular lowering of
25 local government property taxes.

26 b. Creation of, or inducement to create, high-wage, stable
27 employment opportunities for a local government's citizens and
28 more effective leveraging of resources to improve competitive
29 advantage.

30 c. Elimination of duplication of government
31 administration.

32 d. More efficient and effective delivery of services by
33 government, including eliminating duplication of service
34 delivery by more than one unit of government in the same area
35 and modernizing services and service delivery to meet the

1 changing public service needs of the area.

2 e. Creation of a state-local partnership in one or more
3 areas of service delivery and governance that would increase
4 quality and efficiency on the local level.

5 3. Design an application form to be completed by a
6 community-wide area seeking review of a local governance and
7 revenue model. The application form shall employ a return on
8 investment concept that requires the community-wide area to
9 demonstrate how the local governance and revenue model will
10 result in reduced local government or state general fund
11 expenditures, how local government fund revenues will increase
12 without an increase in state costs, how local government
13 services will be provided more efficiently or will be of
14 increased quality resulting in greater value from the
15 expenditure of local government revenues, or how the model
16 develops partnerships with the state to provide increased
17 quality and efficiency on the local level.

18 4. Utilize the department of management, the department of
19 revenue, or other sources of technical expertise designated by
20 the commission to certify savings projected for a proposed
21 local governance and revenue model.

22 5. On or before January 1, 2008, submit to the general
23 assembly and to the office of the governor recommendations for
24 legislation that would provide flexibility and freedom to
25 local governments in implementing governance and revenue
26 models.

27 6. a. Prepare a request for proposals for establishment
28 of an Iowa center for governing excellence as provided in
29 section 8.68, and prepare procedures and a timetable for
30 submission and review of proposals and for selection of a
31 proposal. The proposal process shall be open to public and
32 private not-for-profit institutions of higher education
33 located in this state and accredited by the north central
34 association of colleges and secondary schools.

35 b. The request for proposals shall require each proposal

1 to provide for employment of a full-time director and
2 administrative assistant at the center.

3 c. The request for proposals shall require each proposal
4 to specify all of the following:

5 (1) The number and subject area specialties of the
6 research staff; the office space; the support staff; and the
7 computer, library, and research facilities to be provided by
8 the proposing institution.

9 (2) The personnel, facilities, and support provided for
10 the training of policymakers, public officials, and students
11 in areas including but not limited to public administration
12 and management, budgetary preparation and analysis, electronic
13 government, local-state government relations, and public
14 policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation.

15 (3) The funding to be committed by the proposing
16 institution.

17 7. Receive, file, and compile professor-sponsored student
18 research submitted by the community colleges and public and
19 private universities located in this state. Research
20 submitted shall be stored and made available in paper and
21 electronic form.

22 8. Oversee and direct the activities of the Iowa center
23 for governing excellence.

24 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 8.67 LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION
25 FUND.

26 1. A local government innovation fund is created in the
27 state treasury under the control of the department of
28 management for the purpose of stimulating and encouraging
29 innovation in local government by providing moneys for the
30 purpose of providing grants to assist in the implementation of
31 local governance and revenue models.

32 2. Officials of a community-wide area who have submitted a
33 local governance and revenue model to the commission for
34 review may apply to the commission for a grant from the local
35 government innovation fund to implement all or a portion of

1 such governance and revenue model. Officials seeking a grant
2 from the fund shall complete an application form designed by
3 the commission which employs a return on investment concept.
4 Minimum requirements for local government grant requests shall
5 be determined by the commission and adopted by rule by the
6 department of management.

7 3. Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2, interest
8 or earnings on moneys deposited in the local government
9 innovation fund shall be credited to the local government
10 innovation fund. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys
11 appropriated to and moneys remaining in the local government
12 innovation fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert
13 to the general fund of the state.

14 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 8.68 IOWA CENTER FOR GOVERNING
15 EXCELLENCE.

16 1. The commission shall establish an Iowa center for
17 governing excellence. The purpose of the Iowa center for
18 governing excellence is to do all of the following:

19 a. Enhance the accountability, effectiveness, and
20 efficiency of Iowa's local governments and state agencies by
21 providing objective and nonpartisan research and training
22 support for policymakers and government officials.

23 b. Integrate the research capacities of the community
24 colleges and public and private universities located in this
25 state and of organizations representing local governments to
26 support management and policy research.

27 c. Facilitate dialogues among Iowa's state agencies and
28 local governments, public and private universities,
29 organizations representing local governments, and citizens on
30 government policy design, implementation, and evaluation.

31 2. After its creation, the center may solicit, accept, and
32 administer moneys contributed to the center by any source, and
33 may enter into contracts with public or private agencies or
34 agreements subject to chapter 28E with public and private
35 agencies in order to carry out its purposes. All records of

1 the center including but not limited to records of donations
2 to the center and agreements entered into by the center shall
3 be public records for purposes of chapter 22.

4 3. The center shall submit an annual report of the
5 activities of the center to the governor and to the general
6 assembly as provided in section 7A.11A by January 15 of each
7 year.

8 4. The local government innovation commission created in
9 section 8.65 shall oversee and direct the activities of the
10 Iowa center for governing excellence.

11 Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of
12 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

13 EXPLANATION

14 This bill makes changes relating to local governments by
15 creating a local government innovation commission and fund and
16 by creating a center for governing excellence.

17 The bill creates the local government innovation commission
18 which is located in the department of management for
19 administrative purposes. Members of the commission represent
20 the executive branch, county and city governments, school
21 districts, community colleges, councils of governments, the
22 homeland security and emergency management division of the
23 Iowa department of public defense, the department of economic
24 development, and the private business sector. Four members of
25 the general assembly are appointed as nonvoting members of the
26 commission. The commission is to develop a request for
27 results application and review process to review local
28 governance and revenue models submitted by community-wide
29 areas. The bill requires the commission to report to the
30 general assembly and to the governor's office on or before
31 January 1, 2008, with recommendations for legislative changes
32 that would provide flexibility and freedom to community-wide
33 areas in implementing governance and revenue models. The bill
34 defines "community-wide area".

35 The bill directs the commission to prepare a request for

1 proposals for establishment of an Iowa center for governing
2 excellence. The bill provides that the purpose of the center
3 for governing excellence is to provide objective and
4 nonpartisan research and training for policymakers and
5 government officials; to integrate the research capacities of
6 community colleges and public and private universities and of
7 local government organizations; and to facilitate dialogues
8 among Iowa's state agencies, local governments, universities,
9 and citizens on government policy design, implementation, and
10 evaluation. The bill provides that the activities of the Iowa
11 center for governing excellence shall be directed and
12 supervised by the local government innovation commission.

13 The bill creates a local government innovation fund for the
14 purpose of providing grants to community-wide areas to assist
15 in the implementation of local governance and revenue models
16 that have been reviewed by the commission.

17 The bill takes effect upon enactment.

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Angelo co-chair
Dvorsky co-chair
Shull
Stewart

Succeeded By
HF 2411

SSB#3268
Appropriations

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS BILL BY
CO-CHAIRPERSON ANGELO)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to local governments by creating a local
2 government innovation commission and fund, creating a center
3 for governing excellence, allowing a vote of the people on
4 dissolution of township governments in certain counties,
5 allowing city contributions for pension and related employee
6 benefits pursuant to contracted public safety services, and
7 including an effective date.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 8.64, Code 2005, is amended by striking
2 the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

3 8.64 DEFINITIONS.

4 For purposes of sections 8.65 through 8.68:

5 1. "Commission" means the local government innovation
6 commission.

7 2. "Community-wide area" means a distinct geographical
8 area voluntarily formed by and comprised of counties, cities,
9 or townships, or any combination thereof, all of which possess
10 a degree of autonomy in a varying number of matters. School
11 districts may also participate in a community-wide area if
12 joined by a county, city, or township.

13 3. "Department" means the department of management.

14 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 8.65 LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION
15 COMMISSION.

16 1. A local government innovation commission is created
17 consisting of fourteen voting members and four nonvoting
18 members.

19 a. Voting members of the commission shall be appointed for
20 a term of three years as follows:

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22 by the governor.

23 (2) One member representing county government appointed by
24 the president of the Iowa state association of counties.

25 (3) One member representing city government appointed by
26 the president of the Iowa league of cities.

27 (4) One member representing community colleges appointed
28 by the president of the Iowa association of community college
29 presidents.

30 (5) One member representing school districts appointed by
31 the president of the Iowa association of school boards.

32 (6) One member representing the councils of governments
33 appointed by the president of the Iowa association of councils
34 of government.

35 (7) The administrator of the homeland security and

1 emergency management division of the Iowa department of public
2 defense.

3 (8) The director of the department of economic development
4 or the director's designee.

5 (9) Two members representing the general public appointed
6 by the governor.

7 (10) Four members representing the general public, one
8 each appointed by the majority leader of the senate, the
9 minority leader of the senate, the speaker of the house of
10 representatives, and the minority leader of the house of
11 representatives.

12 b. Four nonvoting members of the general assembly shall be
13 appointed for a term of two years commencing at the convening
14 of each general assembly, one each appointed by the majority
15 leader of the senate, the minority leader of the senate, the
16 speaker of the house of representatives, and the minority
17 leader of the house of representatives. However, initial
18 appointments of members under this paragraph shall be made on
19 the effective date of this Act.

20 2. a. Terms of voting members shall begin and end as
21 provided by section 69.19. Any vacancy shall be filled in the
22 same manner as regular appointments are made for the unexpired
23 portion of the regular term.

24 b. Members of the commission shall be allowed their actual
25 and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
26 duties. The members of the commission representing the
27 general public shall also be compensated as provided in
28 section 7E.6. Per diem and expenses paid to commission
29 members shall be paid from moneys appropriated to the local
30 government innovation fund, except that the per diem and
31 expenses of members of the general assembly shall be paid
32 pursuant to section 2.12.

33 c. The commission shall meet in May of each year for the
34 purpose of electing one of its voting members as chairperson.
35 The commission shall meet at the call of the chairperson or

1 when a majority of the voting members of the commission files
2 a written request with the chairperson for a meeting. Written
3 notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be given to
4 each member of the commission.

5 d. A majority of the voting members of the commission
6 constitutes a quorum. Any action taken by the commission must
7 be adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting
8 membership.

9 e. The commission is located for administrative purposes
10 within the department. The department shall provide office
11 space, staff assistance, administrative support, and necessary
12 supplies and equipment to the commission.

13 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 8.66 DUTIES OF COMMISSION.

14 The commission shall do all of the following:

15 1. Promote, encourage, and advance innovation and
16 creativity in local governance.

17 2. Develop an application and review process for local
18 governance plans submitted to the commission by a community-
19 wide area. Results, strategies, and desired outcomes
20 identified by the commission in developing its application and
21 review process shall include but not be limited to the
22 following:

23 a. Cost savings to citizens, in particular lowering of
24 local government property taxes.

25 b. Creation of, or inducement to create, high-wage, stable
26 employment opportunities for a local government's citizens and
27 more effective leveraging of resources to improve competitive
28 advantage.

29 c. Elimination of duplication of government
30 administration.

31 d. More efficient and effective delivery of services by
32 government, including eliminating duplication of service
33 delivery by more than one unit of government in the same area
34 and modernizing services and service delivery to meet the
35 changing public service needs of the area.

1 e. Creation of a state-local partnership in one or more
2 areas of service delivery and governance that would increase
3 quality and efficiency on the local level.

4 3. Design an application form to be completed by a
5 community-wide area seeking review of a local governance and
6 revenue model. The application form shall employ a return on
7 investment concept that requires the community-wide area to
8 demonstrate how the local governance and revenue model will
9 result in reduced local government or state general fund
10 expenditures or how local government fund revenues will
11 increase without an increase in state costs, how local
12 government services will be provided more efficiently or will
13 be of increased quality resulting in greater value from the
14 expenditure of local government revenues, and how the model
15 develops partnerships with the state to provide increased
16 quality and efficiency on the local level.

17 4. Utilize the department of management, the department of
18 revenue, or other sources of technical expertise designated by
19 the commission to certify savings projected for a proposed
20 local governance and revenue model.

21 5. On or before January 1, 2008, submit to the general
22 assembly and to the office of the governor recommendations for
23 legislation that would provide flexibility and freedom to
24 local governments in implementing governance and revenue
25 models.

26 6. a. Prepare a request for proposals for establishment
27 of an Iowa center for governing excellence as provided in
28 section 8.68, and prepare procedures and a timetable for
29 submission and review of proposals and for selection of a
30 proposal. The proposal process shall be open to public and
31 private not-for-profit institutions of higher education
32 located in this state and accredited by the north central
33 association of colleges and secondary schools.

34 b. The request for proposals shall require each proposal
35 to provide for employment of a full-time director and

1 administrative assistant at the center.

2 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 8.67 LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION
3 FUND.

4 1. A local government innovation fund is created in the
5 state treasury under the control of the department of
6 management for the purpose of stimulating and encouraging
7 innovation in local government by providing moneys for the
8 purpose of providing grants to assist in the implementation of
9 local governance and revenue models.

10 2. Officials of a community-wide area who have submitted a
11 local governance and revenue model to the commission for
12 review may apply to the commission for a grant from the local
13 government innovation fund to implement all or a portion of
14 such governance and revenue model. Officials seeking a grant
15 from the fund shall complete an application form designed by
16 the commission which employs a return on investment concept.
17 Minimum requirements for local government grant requests shall
18 be determined by the commission and adopted by rule by the
19 department of management.

20 3. Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2, interest
21 or earnings on moneys deposited in the local government
22 innovation fund shall be credited to the local government
23 innovation fund. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys
24 appropriated to and moneys remaining in the local government
25 innovation fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert
26 to the general fund of the state.

27 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 8.68 IOWA CENTER FOR GOVERNING
28 EXCELLENCE.

29 1. The commission shall establish an Iowa center for
30 governing excellence. The purpose of the Iowa center for
31 governing excellence is to do all of the following:

32 a. Enhance the accountability, effectiveness, and
33 efficiency of Iowa's local governments and state agencies by
34 providing objective and nonpartisan research and training
35 support for policymakers and government officials.

1 b. Integrate the research capacities of the community
2 colleges and public and private universities located in this
3 state and of organizations representing local governments to
4 support management and policy research.

5 c. Facilitate dialogues among Iowa's state agencies and
6 local governments, public and private universities,
7 organizations representing local governments, and citizens on
8 government policy design, implementation, and evaluation.

9 2. After its creation, the center may solicit, accept, and
10 administer moneys contributed to the center by any source, and
11 may enter into contracts with public or private agencies or
12 agreements subject to chapter 28E with public and private
13 agencies in order to carry out its purposes. All records of
14 the center including but not limited to records of donations
15 to the center and agreements entered into by the center shall
16 be public records for purposes of chapter 22.

17 3. The center shall submit an annual report of the
18 activities of the center to the governor and to the general
19 assembly as provided in section 7A.11A by January 15 of each
20 year.

21 4. a. A governing board is created to oversee and direct
22 the activities of the Iowa center for governing excellence.

23 b. The governing board shall be composed of the following
24 members:

25 (1) A representative of state government appointed by the
26 governor.

27 (2) A representative of the Iowa league of cities
28 appointed by the president of the league.

29 (3) A representative of the Iowa state association of
30 counties appointed by the president of the association.

31 c. The governing board shall oversee the operations of the
32 Iowa center for governing excellence and shall make decisions
33 regarding research and training activities conducted by the
34 center.

35 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 331.386 DISSOLUTION OF TOWNSHIP

1 GOVERNMENT IN CERTAIN COUNTIES -- ELECTION.

2 1. Notwithstanding section 331.385, the county board of
3 supervisors of a county with a population of less than five
4 thousand, according to the most recent federal decennial
5 census, may by resolution, or shall if petitioned for by
6 eligible electors of the county, direct the county
7 commissioner of elections to place on the ballot for the next
8 general election the question of whether the township
9 governments in the county shall be dissolved. If the
10 proposition is approved by a majority of the votes cast on the
11 proposition at the election, the county shall assume the
12 exercise of the powers and duties of township trustees,
13 subject to the provisions of this section, and the county
14 auditor shall assume the powers and duties of township clerk.
15 Dissolution of the township governments takes effect for the
16 fiscal year beginning July 1 following the general election at
17 which the proposition was approved.

18 2. Upon dissolution of the township governments, all
19 assets and liabilities of the township governments shall
20 transfer to the county. The liabilities of each township
21 shall be paid by the county from the separate township fund
22 established for that township under subsection 3.

23 If at the time dissolution of the township governments
24 takes effect, a township in the county has in force an
25 agreement to receive or provide fire protection service or
26 emergency medical services, the agreement shall continue for
27 the duration stated in the agreement. Moneys received by the
28 township for providing fire protection service or emergency
29 medical services shall be deposited in that township's
30 separate fund established under subsection 3.

31 3. The board of supervisors in a county which has approved
32 at election the proposition of dissolving the township
33 governments in the county shall establish a separate township
34 fund for each township and shall levy property taxes in the
35 same manner and same amounts as township trustees pursuant to

1 chapters 37, 359, 359A, and 360. The budget for each township
 2 shall be prepared as provided for in section 359.49, except
 3 that a public hearing on the proposed township budgets shall
 4 be at the same time as the public hearing on the proposed
 5 county budget in lieu of the meeting required in section
 6 359.49. In addition to the posting requirement in section
 7 359.49, a summary of the budget for each township shall be
 8 published with the summary of the proposed county budget.

9 4. Township governments dissolved pursuant to this section
 10 may be reestablished by petition and election in the same
 11 manner as provided in subsection 1 for dissolution of the
 12 township governments.

13 5. This section does not prohibit a county described in
 14 subsection 1 from assuming the powers and duties of township
 15 trustees in accordance with the provisions of section 331.385,
 16 subsections 1 through 4, if the proposition to dissolve
 17 township governments pursuant to this section is not approved
 18 at election.

19 Sec. 7. Section 384.6, subsection 1, Code 2005, is amended
 20 to read as follows:

21 1. Accounting for pension and related employee benefit
 22 funds as provided by the city finance committee. A city may
 23 certify taxes to be levied for a trust and agency fund in the
 24 amount necessary to meet its obligations.

25 a. A city may make contributions to a retirement system
 26 other than the Iowa public employees' retirement system for
 27 its city manager, or city administrator performing the duties
 28 of city manager, in an annual amount not to exceed the amount
 29 that would have been contributed by the employer under section
 30 97B.11.

31 b. If a police chief or fire chief has submitted a written
 32 request to the board of trustees to be exempt from chapter
 33 411, authorized in section 411.3, subsection 1, a city shall
 34 make contributions for the chief, in an amount not to exceed
 35 the amount that would have been contributed by the city under

1 section 411.8, subsection 1, paragraph "a", to the
2 international city management association/retirement
3 corporation. ~~A city may certify taxes to be levied for a~~
4 ~~trust and agency fund in the amount necessary to meet its~~
5 ~~obligations.~~

6 c. A city which has contracted with another city or
7 governmental entity for the provision of public safety
8 services, including but not limited to police protection, fire
9 protection, ambulance, or hazardous materials response, may,
10 pursuant to contract, make contributions for pension and
11 related employee benefits for personnel of the other city or
12 governmental entity providing such services to the city. The
13 city may make such contributions in an annual amount not to
14 exceed the amount of contributions for pension and related
15 employee benefits that would otherwise be paid by the other
16 city or governmental entity for such personnel.

17 Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of
18 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

19 EXPLANATION

20 This bill makes changes relating to local governments by
21 creating a local government innovation commission and fund,
22 creating a center for governing excellence, allowing a vote of
23 the people on dissolution of township governments in certain
24 counties, and allowing city contributions for pension and
25 related employee benefits pursuant to contracted public safety
26 services.

27 The bill creates the local government innovation commission
28 which is located in the department of management for
29 administrative purposes. Members of the commission represent
30 the executive branch, county and city governments, school
31 districts, community colleges, councils of governments, the
32 homeland security and emergency management division of the
33 Iowa department of public defense, the department of economic
34 development, and the general public. Four members of the
35 general assembly are appointed as nonvoting members of the

1 commission. The commission is to develop a request for
 2 results application and review process to review local
 3 governance and revenue models submitted by community-wide
 4 areas. The bill requires the commission to report to the
 5 general assembly and to the governor's office on or before
 6 January 1, 2008, with recommendations for legislative changes
 7 that would provide flexibility and freedom to community-wide
 8 areas in implementing governance and revenue models. The bill
 9 defines "community-wide area".

10 The bill directs the commission to prepare a request for
 11 proposals for establishment of an Iowa center for governing
 12 excellence. The bill provides that the purpose of the center
 13 for governing excellence is to provide objective and
 14 nonpartisan research and training for policymakers and
 15 government officials; to integrate the research capacities of
 16 community colleges and public and private universities and of
 17 local government organizations; and to facilitate dialogues
 18 among Iowa's state agencies, local governments, universities,
 19 and citizens on government policy design, implementation, and
 20 evaluation. The bill provides that the activities of the Iowa
 21 center for governing excellence shall be directed and
 22 supervised by a governing board comprised of a representative
 23 of state government and of representatives of the Iowa league
 24 of cities and the Iowa state association of counties.

25 The bill also creates a local government innovation fund
 26 for the purpose of providing grants to community-wide areas to
 27 assist in the implementation of local governance and revenue
 28 models that have been reviewed by the commission.

29 The bill provides that a county with a population of less
 30 than 5,000 may vote on the question of whether the township
 31 governments in the county should be dissolved. The question
 32 shall be placed on the general election ballot by resolution
 33 of the board of supervisors or by petition of eligible
 34 electors. If the proposition receives a favorable majority,
 35 the county board of supervisors is to assume the powers and

1 duties of township trustees and the county auditor is to
2 assume the powers and duties of township clerk.

3 The bill provides that the county shall establish a
4 separate township fund for each township. The budgets of the
5 townships shall be prepared as provided by current law for
6 townships except that the bill requires that a public hearing
7 on the proposed township budgets be held at the same time as
8 the public hearing on the proposed county budget. The bill
9 also requires that a summary of each proposed township budget
10 be published with the proposed county budget in addition to
11 the posting requirement in current law for proposed township
12 budgets.

13 The bill also provides that a township government that is
14 dissolved under this procedure may be reestablished by
15 petition and election.

16 The bill allows a city to contribute to pension and related
17 employee benefits for personnel of another city or
18 governmental entity pursuant to a contract in which the city
19 receives public safety services, including but not limited to
20 police protection, fire protection, ambulance, or hazardous
21 materials response, from the other city or governmental
22 entity. The city may make such contributions in an annual
23 amount not to exceed the amount of contributions for pension
24 and related employee benefits that would otherwise be paid by
25 the other city or governmental entity for such personnel.

26 The bill takes effect upon enactment.

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