

No. 745, S.]

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CHAPTER 686

AN ACT to amend 20.520 (41); and to create 13.350 and 20.520 (3) and (40) of the statutes, relating to the improvement of legislative procedures, organization and staff services and making an appropriation.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 13.350 of the statutes is created to read:

13.350 PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS. (1) IMPROVEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES. The 1961 legislature finds and determines that although services furnished to the legislature at the present time are commendable, there are areas in which the services are inadequate and should be strengthened so that the legislature may properly perform its historic duty and function to exercise close control over public expenditures, including the review of the budget and of the programs and efficiency of the administrative offices of the state, and to make effective inquiry into the large volume of current business brought before each legislative session. The legislature also finds that the review of the adequacy of important areas of existing statute law should be continued. To accomplish these ends, the legislature finds that it is desirable and in the public interest to accept the grant from the Ford foundation, as tendered on October 14, 1959. The project for the improvement of the legislative services shall be financed jointly by the Ford foundation and the state.

(2) COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES. There is created a 10-member committee to supervise the program. The committee shall be composed of 5 senators and 5 assemblymen appointed as are standing committees in each house. Two members from each house shall be from the minority party. The committee shall be attached to the legislative council for administrative purposes only. The council shall not restrict the projects and expenditures of the committee.

(3) FUNCTIONS. The committee shall study the procedure, organization, duties and functions of the legislature and its staff agencies with the

objectives of modernizing its organization and procedures and clarifying the statutes and rules related to the legislative process. This program for improving the legislative process shall be organized in 3 phases.

(a) *Phase 1. Fiscal review.* Fiscal review and budget analysis for the purpose of developing new techniques and procedures for examining department appropriation requests, and particularly the effectiveness of the programs financed by such appropriations. This phase shall receive high priority.

(b) *Phase 2. Review of legislative organization and procedures.* In order to systematically evaluate and streamline legislative organization, procedures and functions, the committee shall divide its study into 3 areas:

1. Procedures involved in the legislative process, including revision of rules, and the advisability of regular annual sessions, annual budget sessions and bifurcated sessions.

2. Organization and adequacy of staff services needed to assist the legislature in carrying out its functions, and the interim duties of legislators and their distribution among members.

3. Techniques and procedures for reviewing existing state programs and the development of policy for new areas of statute law.

(c) *Phase 3. Demonstration projects.* After the committee has initiated Phase 2 and when the need for staff services in particular areas has been examined, the committee may conduct demonstration projects to determine the value of staff services to the legislature and its committees.

(4) **STAFF.** The committee may select outside the classified service such clerical and technical personnel as is required. Consultants and other experts may be employed as needed.

(5) **REMUNERATION.** Members of the committee and advisory committees shall receive no salary but shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenditures.

(6) **ADVISORY COMMITTEE.** The committee may select advisory committees to provide assistance and advice in carrying out its functions.

(7) **REPORTS.** The committee shall report its progress and recommendations to each session of the legislature not later than February 15 of each odd-numbered year. Its final report shall include recommendations on organization and staff services required by the legislature based on demonstration projects conducted during this program.

SECTION 2. 20.520 (3) and (40) of the statutes are created to read:

20.520 (3) **LEGISLATIVE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.** There is appropriated from the general fund as a nonlapsible appropriation to the legislative council \$60,000 on July 1, 1961, and \$80,000 biennially thereafter to June 30, 1967, and not to exceed \$60,000 for the 1961-63 biennium and \$80,000 biennially thereafter from the revenues provided by the Ford foundation, under sub. (40) for the execution of the functions under s. 13.350. The appropriation from the general fund shall be made only if the grant from the Ford foundation is received by the state.

(40) **FORD FOUNDATION GRANTS.** All moneys received from the Ford foundation pursuant to s. 13.350 shall be credited to this subsection and shall constitute the source of the revenues appropriated under sub. (3).

SECTION 3. 20.520 (41) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.520 (41) The committee may accept and use any funds made available to it in connection with any research or study undertaken by it. All such funds shall be paid within one week after receipt into the general fund and are appropriated and credited to the * * * *appropriations* made in * * * *this section.*

Approved February 14, 1962.