

**Committee on Rules and Administration,
Subcommittee on Ethical Conduct
Senator James Metzen, Chair**

Senator James Metzen, Chair of the Subcommittee on Ethical Conduct, called the meeting to order at 10:06 am on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 in room 125 of the State Capitol.

All members were present:

Metzen
Frederickson
Scheid
Ingebrigtsen

Advisory request from Senator David Senjem, Senator David Hann, Senator Amy Koch, and Senator Geoff Michel

Peter Wattson, Senate Counsel, went over handouts and rules, including:

Rule 35

Rule 55.3

These rules state that complaints must be brought to the subcommittee before the body adjourns sine die in order for them to be able to take any action on a complaint. However, the committee can still give an advisory opinion.

The committee went over possible conflicts of interest.

The committee read and discussed the draft letter dated June, 2.

Senator Chaudhary was asked to respond to the letter.

Peter Wattson, read and summarized the letter.

Senator Chaudhary was sworn in.

Senator Chaudhary "agrees with much of the draft."

The committee asked questions of Senator Chaudhary in relation to statements in the letter.

Senator Chaudhary maintained that a constituent brought the issue of the legislation to him and he simply brought a letter to Representative Dill.

Senator Scheid asked why he had not brought the letter before his own committee. He responded that it was an error on his part.

Senator Chaudhary admitted that he should have put on the breaks and put the issue into bill form on the Senate side. But that it was an idea brought forth by constituents on the lake.

The committee all agreed that the issue should have been brought forward to vet and vote on in Senator Chaudhary's committee. The Senator agreed that this was his mistake.

Senator Ingebrigtsen asked if Chaudhary thought this might be the reason the governor vetoed the bill. He stated that there was only "a very vague reference to this in the veto letter." The veto letter is included in this packet of information.

Metzen pointed out that this issue is one of only four points in the veto letter.

The committee decided they would need to break in order to make amendments and meet to come to a consensus.

Frederickson reaffirmed that no action can be taken because the bodies had adjourned sine die. The rules were looked over again and this was confirmed.

Senator Scheid further discussed Frederickson's point. The voters would be able to decide their feelings on this in the election.

Senator Chaudhary agreed with Scheid.

Senator Metzen accept Chaudhary's statements as a form of an apology and that we "would continue to move on from here."

NO sanctions can be made, an advisory opinion only can be given.

The Senators agreed on language for the advisory.

Meeting recessed at 11:27 am until 3:00 pm.

Committee reconvened at 3:09 pm.

Metzen introduced the modified letter, drafted at 2:50 p.m.

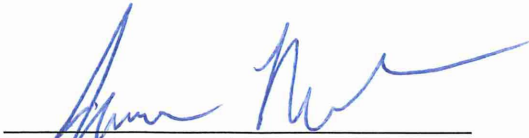
Senator Chaudhary took issue with some of the wording.

Amendments were made.
The final draft is included in this packet.


Senator Frederickson moved that the letter be adopted once amended.
The motion prevailed. Senator Metzen noted that it was unanimous.

The recording of this meeting is available for even further details.

The meeting adjourned at 4:08 pm.



James Metzen, Chair
Business, Industry and Jobs Committee



Lisa Sarne
Committee Clerk