

**Organizational Meeting
Indiana Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental Relations
Friday, October 25, 1995**

OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting consisted of a series of activities including opening remarks and introductions, review of pre-retreat interview results, development of a mission statement, identification and prioritization of work plan items for the near future, a presentation about the potential ramifications of recent federal budget actions/proposals, and closing remarks. The meeting was opened at approximately 1:15 PM by Senator Joseph Zakas. He announced that he had been appointed chair by leadership of the Legislative Council and that Representative Gloria Goeglein was appointed vice chair. Senator Zakas announced that there was a quorum present.

The Chair welcomed the new Commission members. In his opening remarks, he cited James Madison's writing in the Federalist Papers. He said Madison wrote that the difficulty in establishing a new form of government rests in doing two things at the same time. First, enabling the government the sufficient ability to control the governed and second, requiring that governments control itself. Too many people today feel that the federal government has not controlled itself very well. There is a movement to return responsibility to state and local government. He said sometimes the process is called devolution.

Senator Zakas explained that the Indiana Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations was established by the General Assembly in 1995 to provide a forum for working through the problems that naturally will arise as greater demands are made at the state and local levels. The Indiana legislation is based upon federal and other states enabling statutes. He stated that it was his hope that greater communication among all levels of government will enhance cooperation and efficiency.

The Chair cited Section 12 of the statute in which the Indiana University Center for Urban Policy and the Environment was named to administer the commission. He said that John Krauss from the Center had been very involved in drafting and shepherding the bill through the General Assembly. He noted that having the Center and John Krauss to work with the Commission was a great asset. Mr. Krauss will serve as the Director of the Commission. Before calling on Mr. Krauss, Senator Zakas recognized Representative Gloria Goeglein.

Following the brief comments by the chair, Mr. Krauss asked each of the members to introduce themselves. Mr. Krauss gave a brief history of the Center for Urban Policy and the Environment and a brief list of the types of work in which the Center is involved. He concurred with Senator Zakas's comments about the devolution of federal responsibilities; state and local government are likely to be seriously affected by the

changes currently being debated in Congress. Mr. Krauss then introduced the agenda for the afternoon. The complete agenda can be found below.

MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Senator Joseph C. Zakas, Chair

Self Introduction of Commission Members

All

The Role of Indiana University's Center for Urban Policy and the Environment

John L. Krauss

Review of Interviews with Commission Members

John L. Krauss

Development of a Mission Statement

Members will be divided into two groups

Finalization of Mission Statement

All

Development of a Work Program

All

Report from the State Budget Agency on Changes in Federal Funding and the Effects on the State

Kathrine Davis, Jenna Walls, and Dorrie Murphy

Other Business

Adjournment

INTERVIEW REVIEW

Commission members were interviewed prior to the meeting and asked to respond to the questions shown below. These most frequent responses were reviewed with the members.

Interview Questions

- What do you think is wrong with government today?
- What are the positive aspects of current intergovernmental relationships between the state of Indiana and the federal government?
- What are the positive aspects of the current intergovernmental relationships among the state of Indiana and the local, township, and county levels of government?
- What are the areas of concern in the current intergovernmental relationship between the state of Indiana and the federal government?
- What are the areas of concern in the current intergovernmental relationships among the state of Indiana and the local, township, and county levels of government?
- What are the three action steps that would improve cooperation between federal, state, and the local units of government?
- What are the three most burdensome or difficult mandates facing your level of government today?

The Indiana Advisory Commission of Intergovernmental Relations was created for an initial two-year period. As a Commission member, what one substantive accomplishment would you want the Commission to make in the short and long term?

MISSION STATEMENT

Members were divided into two groups and asked to brainstorm about thematic areas to be included in a broad mission statement for the Commission.

In plenary, facilitators summarized the discussions. Chairman Zakas asked the staff to propose specific language for the mission statement based upon the group's work. The draft mission statement developed subsequently is shown below.

Draft Mission Statement of the Indiana Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations

The mission of the Indiana Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations is to create effective communication, cooperation, and partnerships between the federal, state, and local units of government to improve the delivery of services to the citizens of Indiana. In order to fulfill this mission, the Commission will foster and promote:

- A better understanding of the process of government and the intended and unintended outcomes of policy decisions.
- Better communication between all levels of government and citizens.
- Promote long-term planning between all levels of government.
- Applied research on policy areas in order to better understand the impacts of mandates and policy changes.

WORK PLAN AND PRIORITIES

Using Nominal Group Technique, members identified specific work plan items need to accomplish the group's mission. Following the documentation of the universe of work plan action items, members were asked to prioritize them. Below are the priorities chosen.

Work Plan Action Priorities

- Catalog mandates, study impacts and costs. (49)
- Identify programs for analysis(identify delivery and funding and how we share in it. (37)
- Monitor and catalog tax reform proposals(what impact will they have at the local level? (23)
- Study child welfare at on the basis of delivery of service(best practices, etc. (16)

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mr. Krauss called on Kathy Davis, State Budget Director, to introduce the Budget Agency's report on the "Changing Federal-State-Local Relationship." Ms. Davis pledged the cooperation of the Budget Agency and staff for the Commission's endeavors. She

then introduced Jenna Walls, Assistant Budget Director and Dorrie Mowen Murphy, Budget Analyst.

Ms. Walls spoke briefly about the "Federal Program Summaries" notebook as a potential resource for the Commission. The purpose of the notebook originally was to inform the State Budget Committee about proposed federal legislation affecting programs administered by the state or for which the state has a significant interest. Commission members wishing further information of the subject may contact Mr. Krauss at the Center.

Ms. Murphy then made a presentation on the pending federal budget process and its potential impact on state finances. Following this presentation, Ms. Davis, Ms. Walls, and Ms. Murphy answered questions from Commission members.

CLOSING REMARKS

Chairman Zakas announced that the next meeting would be scheduled as soon as possible. He mentioned the possibility of holding it during the short session of the General Assembly and in cooperation with the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns' legislative meeting in February. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:15 PM.