

Members

Sen. Patricia Miller, Chairperson  
Sen. James Lewis  
Rep. Charlie Brown  
Rep. Richard Mangus



## LEGISLATIVE EVALUATION OVERSIGHT POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

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Subcommittee  
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### MEETING MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

**Meeting Date:** September 18, 2001  
**Meeting Time:** 10:30 A.M.  
**Meeting Place:** State House, 200 W. Washington St.,  
Room 233  
**Meeting City:** Indianapolis, Indiana  
**Meeting Number:** 1

**Members Present:** Sen. Patricia Miller, Chairperson; Sen. James Lewis; Rep. Charlie Brown; Rep. Richard Mangus.

**Members Absent:** None.

Senator Patricia Miller, Chairperson, called the first meeting of the Legislative Evaluation Oversight Policy Subcommittee to order at 10:35 AM. A roll call of all members was taken, and the Chairperson declared a quorum was present to conduct business. All members were present for this meeting.

Senator Miller stated that the purpose of this meeting was to look at the status of ongoing audits by the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) and to talk about any future audits to be conducted. Diane Powers, Fiscal Analyst for the Committee, reported that LSA is currently working on a study of the State Fire Marshal. This was a study postponed from last interim, and LSA is expecting the first quarterly report from the Fire Marshal at the end of September.

Senator Miller then pointed out that the Department of Health and how they conduct their fiscal analyses of proposed legislation is a current assignment for LSA to study. She then asked members if they had other suggestions of audits to be conducted.

The Chair stated that she had been contacted by Senator Hume and he would like the Committee to look into the Indiana Department of Transportation's (INDOT) process of

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<sup>1</sup> Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.ai.org/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

regulating billboards. Senator Miller said that Senator Long contacted staff and would like to see a study of the Department of Insurance and the Health Professions Bureau. She also mentioned that she would like to see a study of the Health Professions Bureau and their fee structure for licensure, along with a study of the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA). Representative Brown agreed that he would like to see where Health Professions fees are going and if they are getting used by the specific groups paying these fee increases. There was then a discussion of how many topics could be undertaken at once. Mrs. Powers said it would depend on staff availability and how specific the areas are to be studied.

The discussion turned to the question of specifying the areas to be studied. The Chair wanted the structure of FSSA to be studied since they have not been reviewed since they reorganized, while Representative Brown stated that a review of FSSA's fiscal impact statements should also be included with the review of the Department of Health. Discussion centered around the fact that some agencies published fiscal impact statements that looked very different from the LSA version of the impact statement. Representative Brown stated that he felt that this was the result of agencies not liking a particular bill and overstating the impact in some cases. Diane Powers said that LSA is very aware of this and takes this, along with many factors into account when publishing their impact statements. Senator Miller summed up the discussion by expressing her preference of giving LSA the freedom to get information for impact statements without having to rely on the agencies that are being impacted.

The Chair proceeded to discuss other suggestions from members. This led to an exchange of ideas about when and how to study the structure of FSSA. Rep. Brown suggested that this topic be undertaken next year when FSSA is already scheduled to be audited. There was no disagreement with this suggestion by the Committee. The Chair asked for any other thoughts from the Committee.

Representative Mangus said he would like to see recycling be examined beginning with the Solid Waste Management Districts and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. He would like to see the broad issue of recycling in Indiana be targeted. The Chair mentioned that the Environmental Quality Service Council (EQSC) is currently studying this topic, and she asked Representative Mangus to discuss the issue further with Senator Gard, Chairperson of the EQSC.

Representative Brown proposed a study on limiting the number of bills legislators could introduce. The consensus was that this was a topic for the Legislative Council or the caucuses of each chamber to take under advisement.

The Chair then reviewed the list of audits that had been suggested. The list included inquiries into the Department of Health, the State Fire Marshal, FSSA and other agency fiscal impact statements, the INDOT billboard regulation process, the Health Professions Bureau, and the Department of Insurance. The Chair opened the discussion to the audience for suggestions, and none followed. She said the next meeting would be scheduled in the coming weeks, and the members would be contacted as soon as a date was set. Mrs. Powers then introduced Karen Firestone, the newest addition to the LSA staff, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.