

**Committee on Rules and Administration****Monday, January 10, 2011****9:00 AM, Room 112, Capitol****Minutes**

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**Present:** Senator Amy T. Koch, Chair, Senator Thomas M. Bakk, Senator Linda Berglin, Senator Michelle L. Fischbach, Senator Chris Gerlach, Senator Keith Langseth, Senator Warren Limmer, Senator Geoff Michel, Senator Julianne E. Ortman, Senator David H. Senjem

**Absent:** Senator Richard J. Cohen

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Senator Amy T. Koch called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**Senate Organizational Resolutions**

Tom Bottern was introduced as new Senate Counsel for Rules and Administration Committee.

Resolution SR 009 relating to postage. ✓  
Discussion on postage levels followed

Resolution TSB 0017 relating to expenses of interns and law clerks. ✓  
Discussion followed.

Magnuson, Director, Senate Information responded to questions on numbers of interns. Scott estimated we would have 42 interns for Senators this year.

Discussion on cut to housing allowance - and it was decided to add this back into the resolution before it is sent to the floor.

Resolution TSB 0018 relating to the attendance of members of standing committees at meetings and seminars held within this state; providing for the payment of expenses.

Discussion followed.

Resolution SR 008 relating to mileage; setting the miles traveled by members of the Senate in going to and returning from the Capitol.

Senate Concurrent Resolution SC 004 relating to adjournment of more than three days.

Committee Resolution CR 001-1 relating to mileage, living and telecommunications expenses incurred by members of the Senate.

Discussion followed.

Amendment offered by Senator Ortman: Line 1.20 remove the word "actual"

Discussion on amendment followed.

Testimony from Eileen Lunzer, Accounts Payable Supervisor, Fiscal Services: CR 001-1 was identical to last years resolution except for update in mileage reimbursement rate and per diem rate.

2/8/2011

Senator Michel moved CR 001-1 as amended. MOTION PREVAILS.

Senate Staff Roster - discussion

Testimony from Dan Boomhower, Director Human Resources: Dan reported that we have 203 FTE positions which includes 7 open positions. Last year we had 203 FTE - so no change.

or Michel thanked staff for their work in interviewing and hiring new staff.

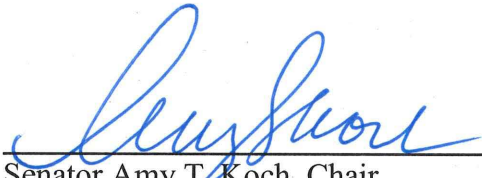
Senator Gerlach moved the roster as submitted. MOTION PREVAILS.

Roster adopted.

Senator Fischbach moved adjournment. MOTION PREVAILS.

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

  
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Senator Amy T. Koch, Chair

  
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Maureen Watson, Leadership Assistant

A committee resolution

1.2 relating to mileage, living, and telecommunications expenses incurred by members  
1.3 of the Senate.

1.4 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Committee on Rules and Administration:

1.5 1. Each member of the Senate who resides more than 50 miles from the state capitol  
1.6 shall be reimbursed for necessary travel in going to and returning from the place of meeting to  
1.7 the member's place of residence for each trip during the 87th Legislature. Mileage for travel by  
1.8 automobile must be at the rate of 51 cents per mile, or any greater or lesser amount authorized by  
1.9 the Internal Revenue Service for employees. Mileage for travel by private aircraft must be at the  
1.10 rate of \$1.29 per mile, or any greater or lesser amount authorized by the Internal Revenue Service  
for employees. Commercial airfare must be the actual costs.

1.12 2. Each member of the Senate shall be paid per diem living expenses for meals, incidental  
1.13 expenses, and lodging in an amount up to \$86 for each calendar day during the sessions of the  
1.14 87th Legislature.

1.15 3. In addition to per diem living expenses, each member of the Senate who resides more  
1.16 than 50 miles from the state capitol shall be reimbursed up to \$1200 per month for actual lodging  
1.17 expenses during the sessions of the 87th Legislature. The total reimbursement for those members,  
1.18 per diem plus lodging, pay not exceed the amount per legislative day allowed by the Internal  
1.19 Revenue Service for an accountable plan.

1.21 4. Each member shall be reimbursed for up to \$125 per month for ~~actual~~ expenses for  
telecommunications.

2.1           5. Each member of the Senate shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Senate for the  
2.2 actual travel, living, and telecommunication expenses for which the member seeks reimbursement.

2.3           6. The Secretary of the Senate shall prepare and issue warrants from the Senate legislative  
2.4 expense fund in payment of expenses to each member of the Senate.