Subcommittee on Employee Relations Legislative Coordinating Commission Monday, December 29, 2003 10:00 a.m. Room 112, State Capitol

<u>Present:</u> Sen. Linda Scheid Sen. David Gaither Sen. Steve Kelley Sen. Sandra Pappas Sen. Betsy Wergin Rep. Chris DeLaForest Rep. Kent Eken Rep. Bill Haas Rep. Jim Knoblach Excused: Rep. Michael Paymar

Senator Scheid called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Senator Wergin moved approval of the minutes from the November 17, 2003, meeting. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Review of Proposed Increase in HESO Director Salary

Susan Heegaard, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor, provided a summary of the Governor's Office proposal to increase the salary of the Director of the Higher Education Services Office. Under a law passed in 2003, this position now reports to and is appointed by the Governor. The director will serve as the Governor's lead policy advisor on higher education.

Rep. Haas moved approval of resolution SER-3, increasing the salary of the HESO director to \$108,393. His motion included amending the date of the resolution to December 29, 2003. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Review/Approve Compensation Plan

Bill Tschida, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, MnSCU, presented the proposed Personnel Plan for MnSCU administrators. He indicated that the plan had been approved by the MnSCU Board on December 17th and that it was decided to not pursue increases to salary ranges in the plan. The plan before the Subcommittee does not include changes to salary ranges.

The plan provides for merit increases of up to 1.25% on January 1, 2004, and July 1, 2004. It also includes other changes that were included in the staff summary.

Representative Haas asked Paul Larson, Deputy Commissioner of DOER, about the Department's perspective on proposed changes to the salary ranges. Mr. Larson indicated that the Department had expressed its concern about possible range changes to MnSCU.

Senator Pappas moved approval of Resolution SER-1, approving the MnSCU Personnel Plan for Administrators as it was submitted on December 15, 2003. Her motion included amending the date on the resolution to December 29, 2003. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Other Business

Senator Scheid asked Mr. Hubinger to review the status of the salary cap waiver request for the Minneapolis Police Chief. Mr. Hubinger reported that the thirty-day window for the Subcommittee to provide advice to the Department had closed December 23rd. As a result, the Department reached its decision, and notified the City of its decision to increase the compensation limit for this position to \$135,000.

Senator Scheid indicated that the Subcommittee would need to meet once in January, before the 2004 Legislature convened, in order to consider approval of any contracts or plans. Mr. Hubinger reported that there were tentative agreements with three state bargaining units.

There being no further business, the subcommittee adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Senator Linda Scheid, Chair