

# Iowa Paralegal Association

May 1, 2026

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**Note: This Session Timetable is subject to change**

**\*See HCR 5, SR 6, and HR 5 (2025)**

<b>JANUARY 12</b>	First day of session (Iowa Code Sec. 2.1)
<b>JANUARY 23</b> (Friday of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> week)	Final day for individual Senator and Representative requests for bill and joint resolution drafts to the Legislative Services Agency (Senate Rule 27 and House Rule 29)
<b>FEBRUARY 20</b> (Friday of the 6 <sup>th</sup> week)**	Final date for Senate bills and joint resolutions to be reported out of Senate Committees and House bills and joint resolutions out of House committees (Joint Rule 20)
<b>FEBRUARY 23-27</b> (7 <sup>th</sup> week)***	Senate considers only Senate bills, Senate joint resolutions, and unfinished business House considers only House bills, House joint resolutions, and unfinished business (Joint Rule 20)
<b>MARCH 2 - MARCH 13</b> (8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> weeks)	Debate not limited by rule
<b>MARCH 20</b> (Friday of the 10 <sup>th</sup> week)**	Final date for Senate bills and joint resolutions to be reported out of House committees and House bills and joint resolutions out of Senate committees (Joint Rule 20)
<b>MARCH 23-27</b> (11 <sup>th</sup> week)***	Senate considers only House bills, House joint resolutions, and unfinished business House considers only Senate bills, Senate joint resolutions, and unfinished business (Joint Rule 20)
<b>MARCH 30</b> (Beginning of the 12 <sup>th</sup> week)	Only the following bills and resolutions are eligible for consideration: (Joint Rule 20) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bills passed by both Houses</li> <li>• Appropriations Bills</li> <li>• Ways and Means Bills</li> <li>• Government Oversight Bills</li> <li>• Legalizing Acts</li> <li>• Administrative Rules Review Committee Bills</li> <li>• Committee Bills related to delayed or suspended Administrative Rules [Iowa Code Sec. 17A.8(9)]</li> <li>• Bills co-sponsored by Majority and Minority Leaders of one House</li> <li>• Conference Committee Reports</li> <li>• Companion Bills sponsored by Senate and House Majority Leaders</li> <li>• Concurrent or Simple Resolutions</li> <li>• Joint Resolutions nullifying Administrative Rules</li> <li>• Bills on the Veto Calendar (Joint Rule 23)</li> <li>• Unfinished Business</li> </ul>
<b>APRIL 6</b> (Beginning of the 13 <sup>th</sup> week)	House amendments need not be filed on the day preceding floor debate (House Rule 31.8)
<b>APRIL 21</b>	100 <sup>th</sup> calendar day of the session [Per diem expenses end - Iowa Code Sec. 2.10(1)]

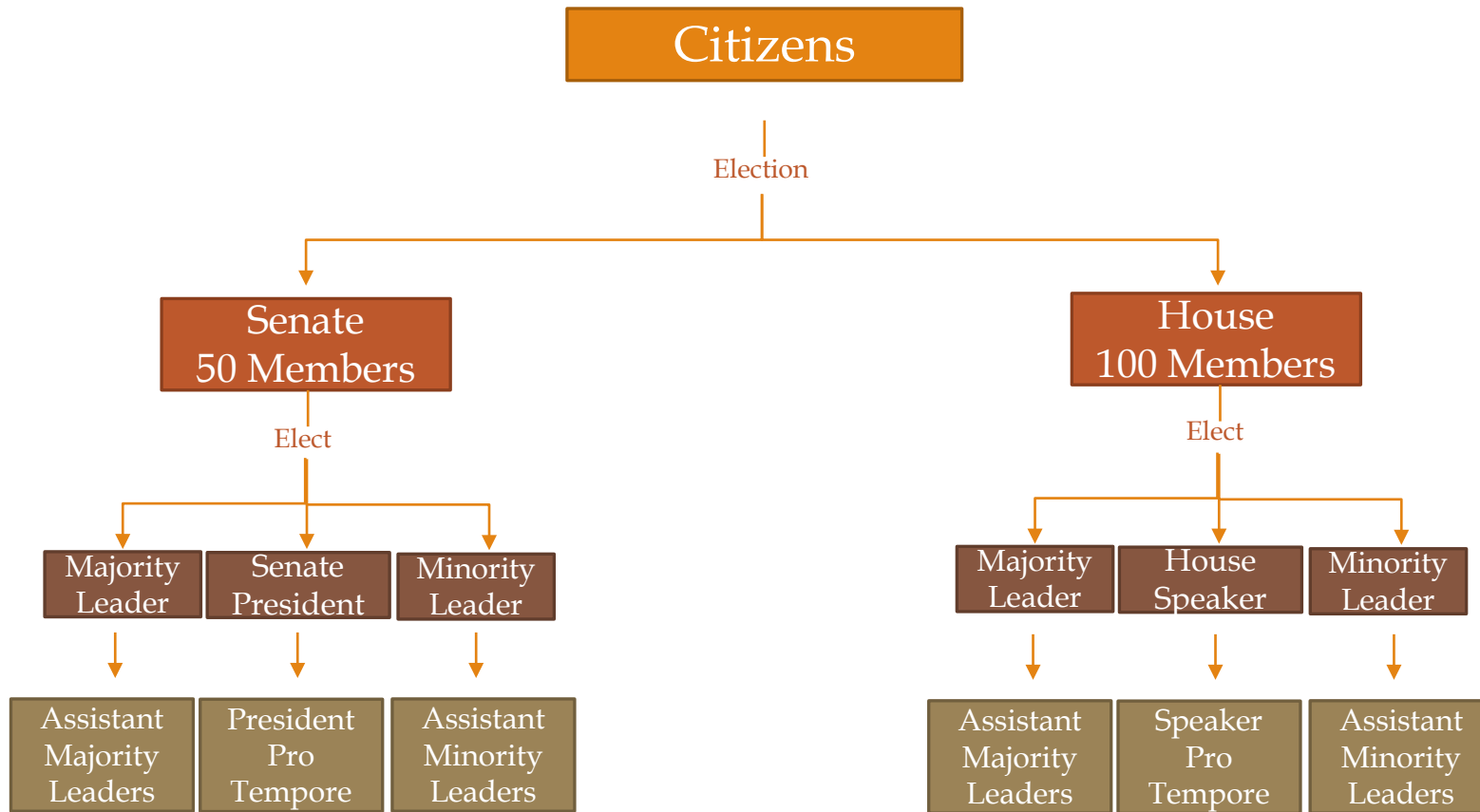
\*\*The February 20 and March 20 committee deadlines do not apply to Appropriations Bills, Ways and Means Bills, Government Oversight Bills, Legalizing Acts, Administrative Rules Review Committee Bills, Committee Bills related to delayed or suspended Administrative Rules [Iowa Code Sec. 17A.8(9)], Bills co-sponsored by Majority and Minority Leaders of one House, Conference Committee Reports, Companion Bills sponsored by the Majority Leaders of both Houses after consultation with the respective Minority Leaders, Concurrent or Simple Resolutions, and Joint Resolutions nullifying Administrative Rules.

\*\*\*The week 7 and 11 limitations do not apply to Concurrent and Simple Resolutions, which may be filed and considered at any time during session.

Legislative Information Office: 07/09/2025

## 2026 Session Significant Dates

❖ Sine Die	
❖ Code 4.21.2026 day 100	
❖ Actual ????	
❖ House Files	781
❖ House study bills	281
❖ Senate Files	501
❖ Senate Study Bills	<u>195</u>
❖ Total	1755
❖ Enrolled	130
❖ Signed	51



# Committees

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## HOUSE COMMITTEES

Administration and Rules	Health and Human Services
Agriculture	*Judiciary
*Appropriations	*Labor and Workforce
Commerce	Local Government
*Economic Growth and Technology	Natural Resources
Education	*Public Safety
Higher Education	State Government
Environmental Protection	Transportation
Ethics	Veterans Affairs
Government Oversight	Ways and Means

## SENATE COMMITTEES

Agriculture	Environment
*Appropriations	Rules and Administration
Commerce	*State Government
Education	*Technology
Ethics	Transportation
Government Oversight	Veterans Affairs
Health and Human Services	Ways and Means
*Judiciary	*Workforce
Local Government	
Natural Resources and	



# Links to Legislative Pages

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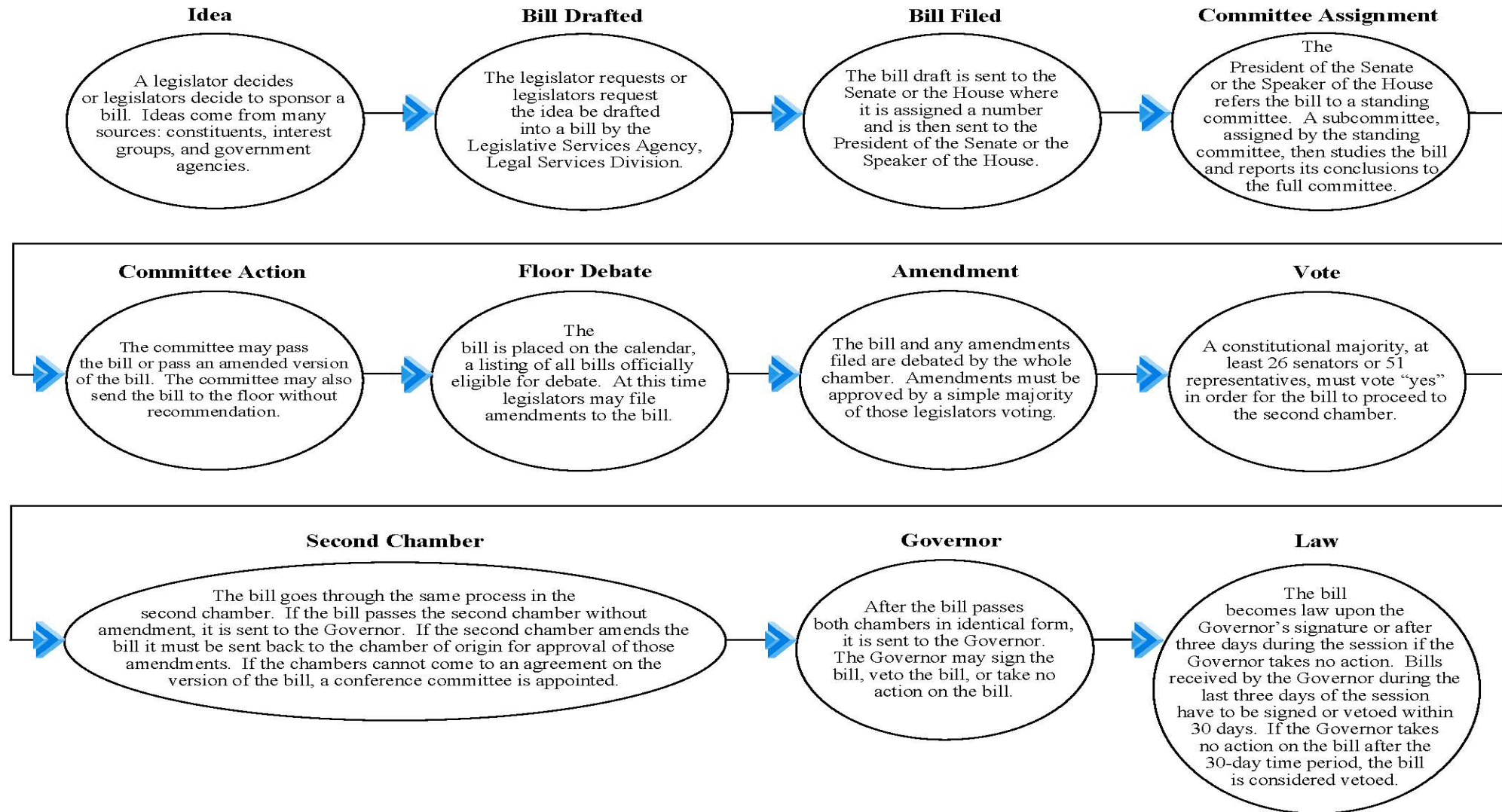
Legislative Home Page:

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

Find Legislation:

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/findLegislation>

# How An Idea Becomes a Law



# LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

- **Pre-filed bills** - Legislative bills and joint resolutions submitted for consideration by the General Assembly before the convening of any session of the General Assembly.
- **Companions/Similars:** When the same or similar bills are introduced in the House and Senate they are typically attached to each other as companions. This is significant when it comes to the funnels, and it will link the bills on the legislative website so, if you only have the bill number for one of the bills, you will be able to see both bills and their bill history on the legislative website.
- **House Study Bill/Senate Study Bill (HSB/SSB)** – Must be introduced by a committee chair on behalf of the committee. There are a few things that differentiate study bills from house/senate files. One difference is that rather than being assigned to a policy committee following the introduction of the bill as in the case of house/senate files, study bills are automatically assigned to the committee the proposal originated from. Once a study bill is introduced, the subcommittee will then meet, and in theory pass the study bill out of subcommittee. The study bill will then be considered in front of the full committee. If the study bill, then passes committee it will be renumbered as a house file/senate file as a committee bill.

# LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

- **House File/Senate File** – HFs/SFs can be introduced by individual members, the Governor's office, and by state departments. These bills can also be renumbered following committee passage if the committee amended the bill.
- **Appropriations/Ways and Means Committees** – following passage out of its committee of origin, **if** the bill impacts a state tax or fee or requires an appropriation it must then be sent to the ways and means committee or the appropriations committee respectively. Following committee passage if a bill was amended in Ways and Means or Appropriations it would again be renumbered.
- \*it is possible that between House and Senate versions that a bill may have had 8 different bill numbers by the time that it is signed into law.

# LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

- **Appropriations/Ways and Means Bills** – Bills that originate from the Ways and Means or Appropriations are considered to be “funnel proof” and remain “alive” until the end of session.
- **Unfinished Business Calendar** – The unfinished business calendar is primarily used to keep bills “alive” following the second funnel. By rule, any bill that has not passed out of one chamber, and out of committee in the opposing chamber (with exception to ways and means and appropriations bills) is considered dead following the second funnel which is March 15 of the 2024 session. The unfinished business calendar is used to keep bills alive but only comes into play when there are House and Senate companions. Both the House and Senate companion versions of the bill must be placed on the unfinished business calendar by leadership prior to the end of the second funnel.



# The Iowa House in 2026

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- ❖ Split **67** Republicans vs. **33** Democrats
  - ❖ Pat Grassley - (R) New Hartford
    - ❖ Speaker of the House
  - ❖ **Bobby Kaufmann** - (R) Wilton
    - ❖ House Majority Leader
  - ❖ **Brian Meyer\*** - (D) Des Moines
    - ❖ Minority Leader



# The Iowa Senate in 2026

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❖ Split 33 Republicans vs. 17 Democrats

❖ Mike Klimesh – (R) Spillville

❖ Majority Leader of the Senate

❖ Amy Sinclair– (R) Allerton

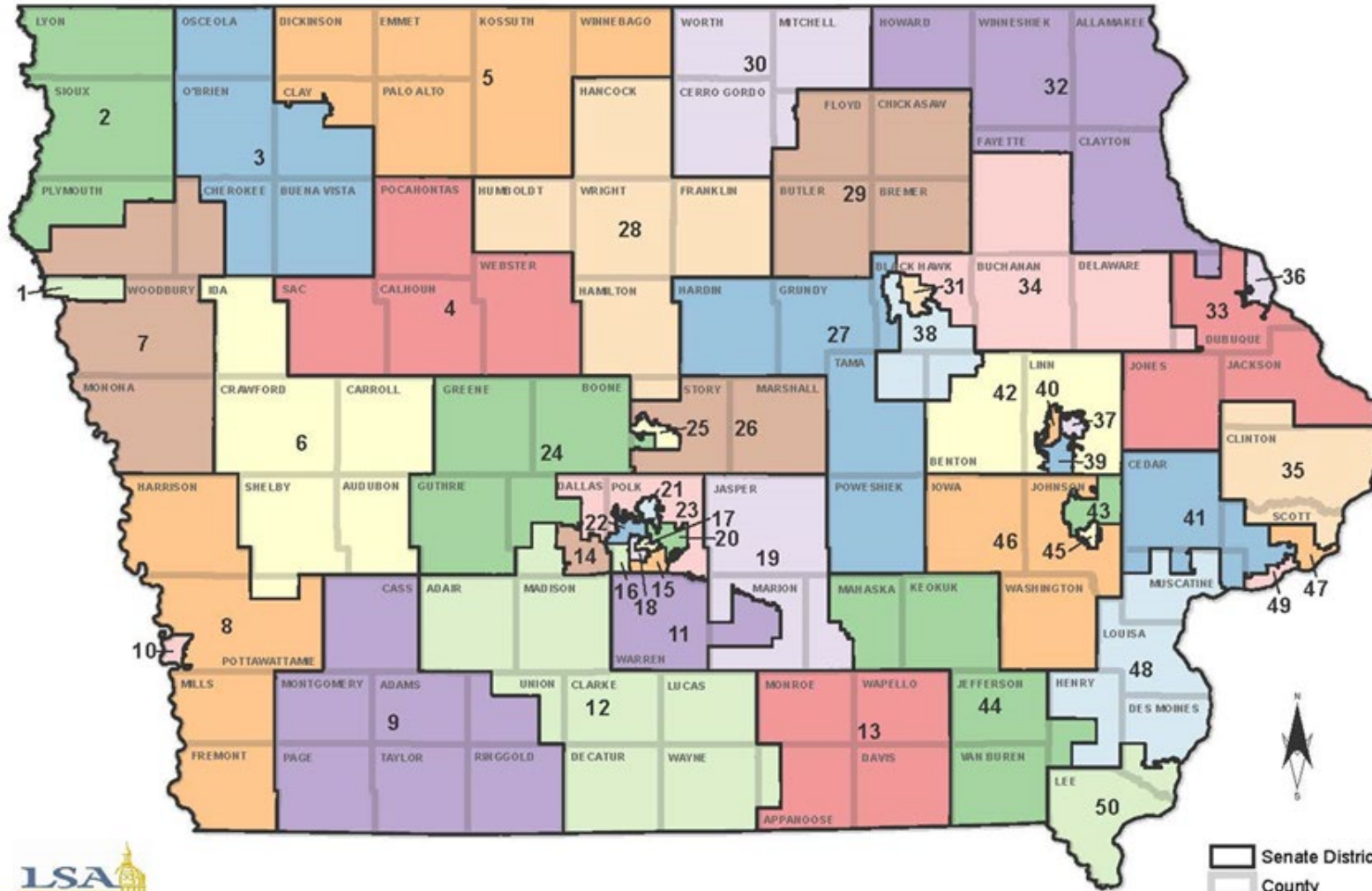
❖ President of the Senate

❖ Janice Weiner\* – (D) Iowa City

❖ Minority Leader

# IOWA SENATE DISTRICTS

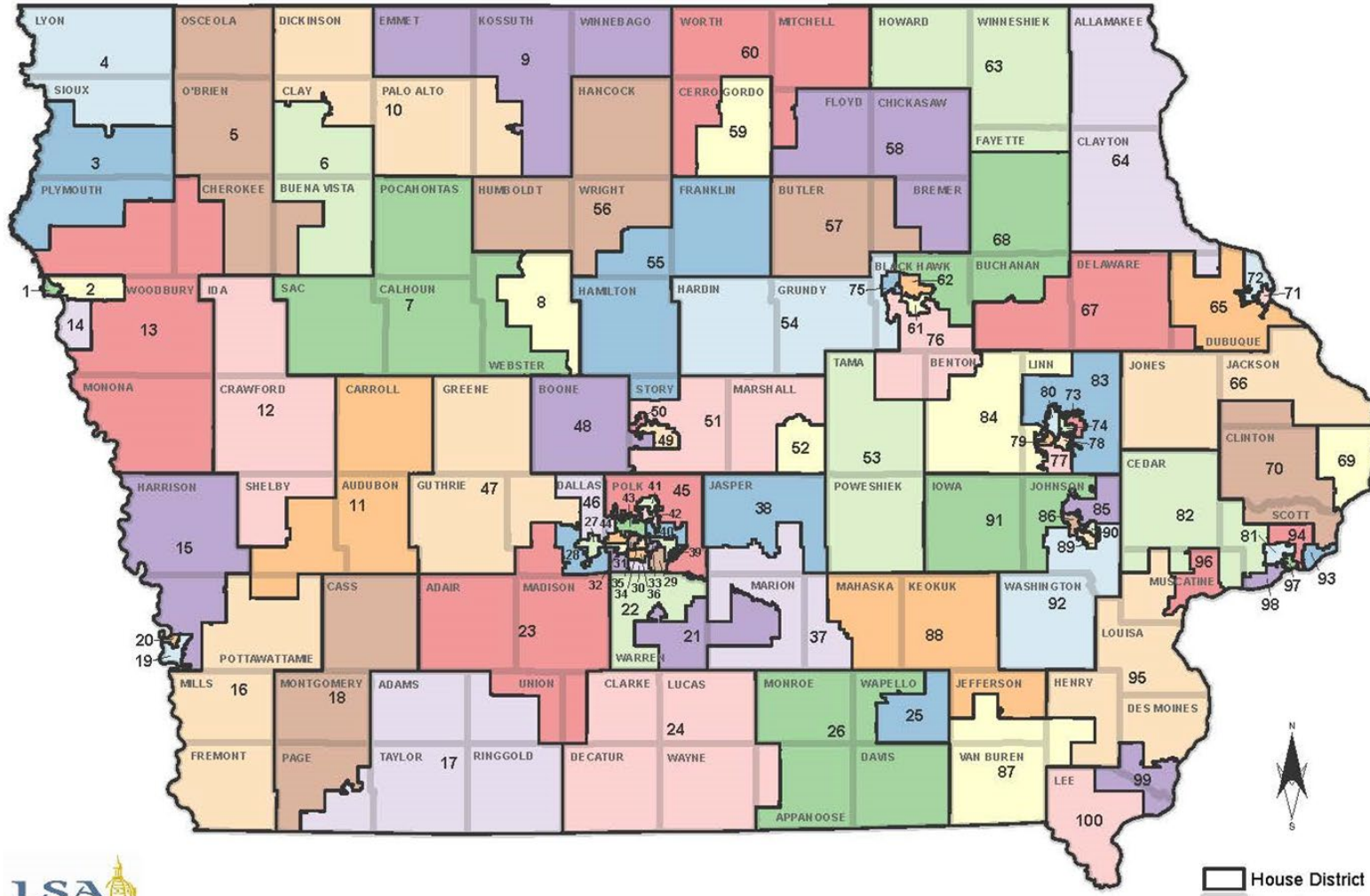
Effective Beginning with the Elections in 2022 for the 90th General Assembly



Prepared by the Iowa Legislative Services Agency

# IOWA HOUSE DISTRICTS

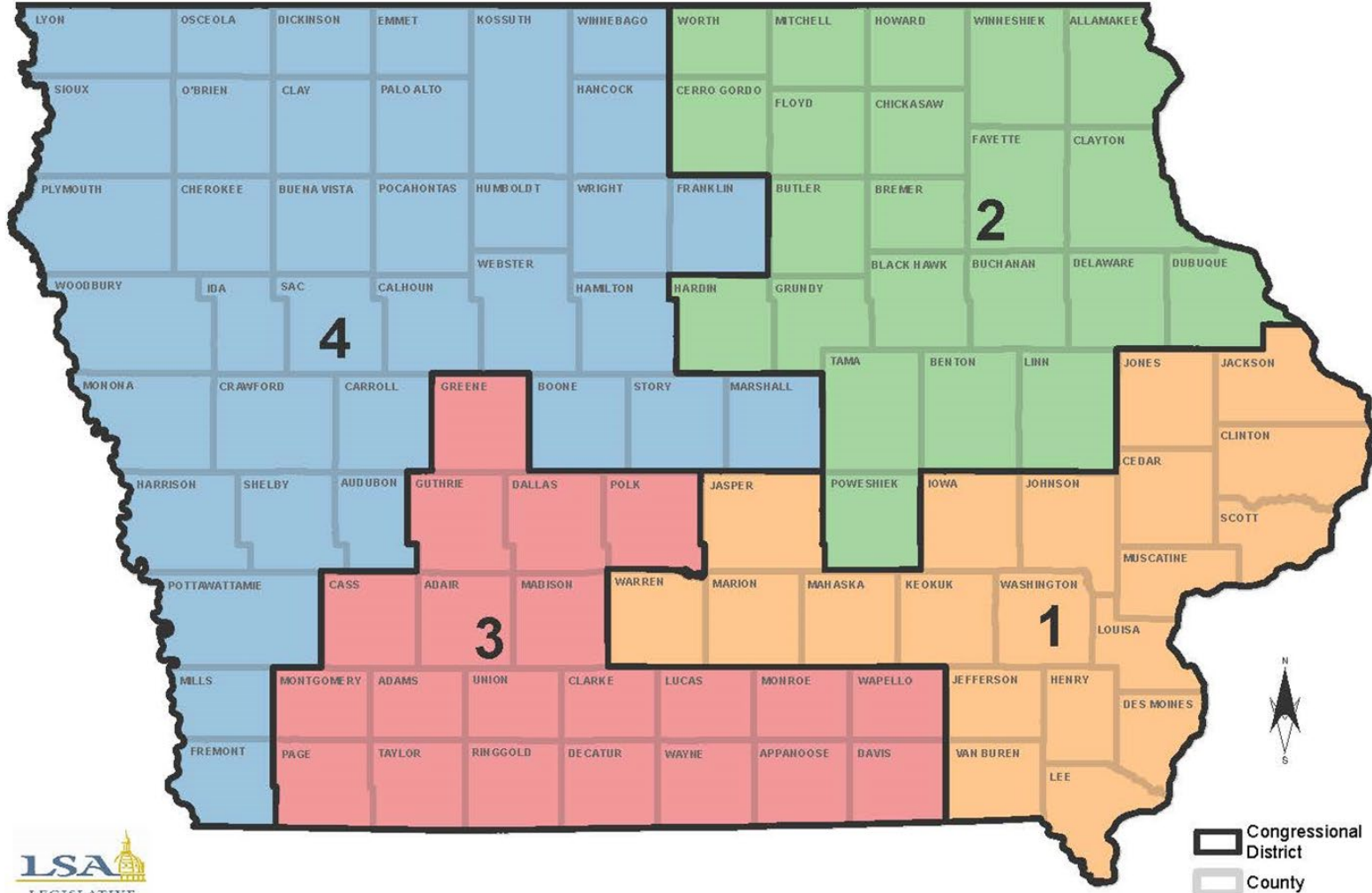
Effective Beginning with the Elections in 2022 for the 90th General Assembly



Prepared by the Iowa Legislative Services Agency

# IOWA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

Effective Beginning with the Elections in 2022 for the 118th U.S. Congress



Prepared by the Iowa Legislative Services Agency

# Lawyer Legislators (14)

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## House

- District 6 – Megan Jones (R)
- District 29 – Brian Meyer (D)
- District 35 – Sean Bagniewski (D)
- District 39 – Rick Olson (D)
- District 40 – Bill Gustoff (R)
- District 45 – Brian Lohse (R)\*
- District 58 – Charley Thomson (R)
- District 91 – Judd Lawler (R)
- District 97 – Ken Croken (D)\*

## Senate

- District 11 - Julian Garrett (R)
- District 21 – Mike Boussetot (R)\*
- District 22 - Matt Blake (D)
- District 23 – Jack Whitver (R)
- District 45 – Janice Weiner (D)

# State Legislative Retirements

\* Retiring to run for other office

## House

House District 1  
Rep. J.D. Scholten

House District 32  
Rep. Jennifer Konfrst

House District 39  
Rep. Rick Olson

House District 42  
Rep. Heather Matson\*

House District 75  
Rep. Bob Kressig

House District 43  
Rep. Eddie Andrews\*

House District 20  
Rep. Josh Turek\*

House District 3  
Rep. Tom Jeneary

House District 5  
Rep. Zach Dieken

House District 38  
Rep. Jon Dunwell

House District 55  
Rep. Shannon Latham

House District 37  
Rep. Barb Kniff  
McCulla\*

House District 15  
Rep. Matt Windschitl

House District 61  
Rep. Timi Brown  
Powers\*

House District 33  
Rep. Ruth Ann Gaines

House District 71  
Rep. Lindsay James\*

House District 98  
Rep. Monica Kurth

## Senate

Senate District 23  
Sen. Jack Whitver

Senate District 31  
Sen. Bill Dotzler

Senate District 19  
Sen. Ken Rozenboom

Senate District 11  
Sen. Julian Garret

Senate District 9  
Sen. Tom Shipley

Senate District 13  
Sen. Cherielynn  
Westrich

Senate District 17  
Sen. Izaah Knox\*

Senate District 43  
Sen. Zach Wahls\*

# June Primary Election - State Legislature

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## House Primaries

### House District 6

Rep. Devon Wood (Incumbent)  
Shaun Kelley

### House District 45

Rep. Brian Lohse (Incumbent)  
Austin Stubbs

### House District 47

Rep. Carter Nordman (Incumbent)  
Jeremy King

### House District 59

Rep. Christian Hermanson (Incumbent)  
Rugby Sliger

### House District 60

Rep. Jane Bloomingdale (Incumbent)  
Dani Ollenber

### House District 63

Rep. Mike Bergan (Incumbent)  
Matthew Smith

### House District 68

Rep. Chad Ingels (Incumbent)  
Adam Thimmesch

### House District 88

Rep. Halena Hayes (Incumbent)  
Aaron Hinnah

### House District 96

Rep. Mark Cisneros (Incumbent)  
Matt Conrad

### House District 97

Rep. Ken Croken (Incumbent)  
Adam Peters

## Senate Primaries

### Senate District 3

Sen. Lynn Evans (Incumbent)  
Shane Bellefy

### Senate District 5

Sen. Dave Rowley (Incumbent)  
Stacy Besch

### Senate District 19

Rep. Barb Kniff-McCulla (Current House Member)  
Bob Eschilman

### Senate District 23

Sen. Michael Boussetot ("Incumbent")  
Wes Enos

### Senate District 27

Sen. Annette Sweeney (Incumbent)  
Rocky Damiano

# Federal Races - June Primary

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## US House

### CD 1

US Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks  
(Incumbent) (Republican)  
David Pautsch (Republican)  
Christina Bohannon (Democrat)  
Travis Terrell (Democrat)

### CD 2

Kathy Dolter (Democrat)  
State Rep. Lindsay James (Democrat)  
Clint Twedt-Ball (Democrat)  
State Sen. Charlie McClintock  
(Republican)  
Former State Rep. Joe Mitchell  
(Republican)  
Dave Bushaw (Independent)

### CD 3

US Rep. Zach Nunn (Incumbent)  
(Republican)  
Xavier Carrigan (Democrat)  
State Sen. Sarah Trone Garriott  
(Democrat)

### CD 4

Chris McGowan (Republican)  
Dave Dawson (Democrat)  
Stephanie Steiner (Democrat)  
Ashley WolfTornabane  
(Democrat)

## US Senate

State Rep. Josh Turek  
(Democrat)  
State Sen. Zach Wahls  
(Democrat)  
US Rep. Ashley Hinson  
(Republican)  
Jim Carlin (Republican)

# Gubernatorial Race

## Republican

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- Randy Feenstra (US Rep.)
- Zach Lahn
- Brad Sherman (Former State Rep.)
- Adam Steen
- Eddie Andrews (State Rep.)

## Democrat

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- Rob Sand (State Auditor)

# ISBA Section and Committees

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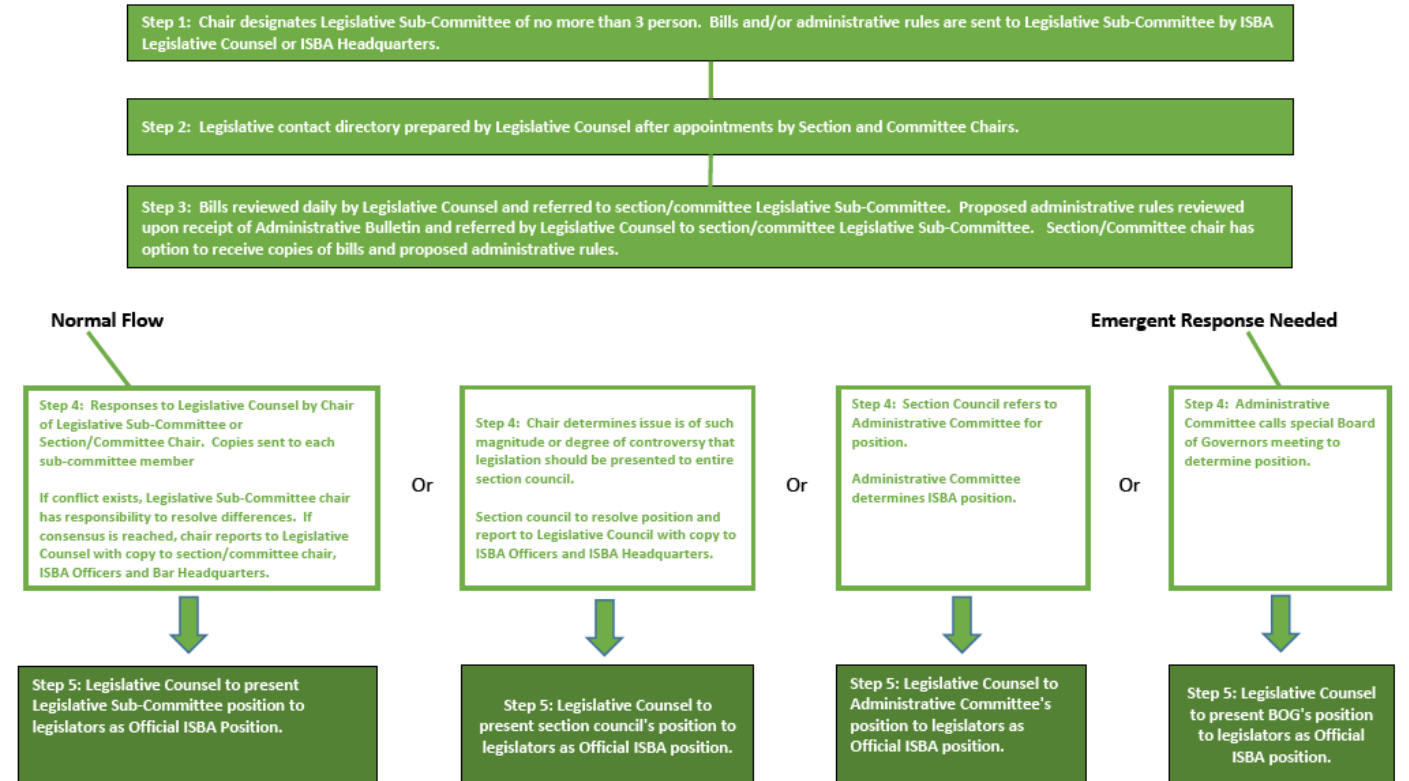
Administrative Law Section	Agricultural Law Section	Alternative Dispute Resolution Section	Business Law Section	Commercial and Bankruptcy Law Section	Construction Law Section	Corporate Counsel Law Section
Criminal Law Section	eCommerce Section	Elder Law Section	Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section	Family and Juvenile Law Section	Government Practice Section	Health Law Section
Intellectual Property Law Section	International Law Section	Labor and Employment Law Section	Litigation Section	Probate, Trust & Estate Planning Law Section	Real Estate and Title Law Section	Solo and Small Firm Section
Taxation Section	Trade Regulation Section	Workers' Compensation Section	Judicial Administration Committee	Legal Access Committee	Military Affairs Committee	

# ISBA Affirmative Legislation Program

Legislative proposals are prepared by various sections, presented to the BOG for approval, and adopted as a part of the ISBA legislative program.

The ISBA has one of the most aggressive affirmative programs of any interest group in the state. Normally, the ISBA has anywhere from 8 to 12 proposals each legislative session.

## ISBA Legislative and Administrative Review Flow Chart



# ISBA Standing Positions

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Full funding of indigent defense with an increase in the contract rate to provide for compensation at the rate of \$100 per hour for Class A felonies with a corresponding increase for other cases, compensation for travel time, and establish a periodic cost-of-living adjustment in the hourly rate for such compensation.

Full Funding of the Judicial Branch: Judicial Branch , Jury Revolving Fund, Judicial salaries increase

Full funding for Legal Services.

Full funding of the IA Secretary of State's Office as requested by IA Secretary of State Paul Pate.

Full funding for the Office of Substitute Decision Maker through the Aging and Disability Resource Center to protect the interests of Iowans who have no one else to manage their financial and health care needs.

Support child abuse prevention and treatment efforts and funding for child abuse prevention and treatment.

Oppose the legalization of title insurance.

Oppose absolute immunity legislation.

Oppose arbitrary caps on the recovery of damages.

# ISBA 2026 Affirmative Agenda

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## **SF 629 – Expedited Filings (Business)**

- Currently, all filings can be expedited in the Secretary of State's Office with either a two or five day service and surcharge. This legislation provides for one-hour (\$250) and same-day (\$175) filing services and surcharge. The legislation also provides that the office shall provide written confirmation of the filing at the time of expedited service. **Enrolled.**

## **HF 2776 – Partnership Act LLC Conversion (Business)**

- Currently, if a partnership wants to convert to an LLC, it must first convert to a limited partnership and then to an LLC. This legislation eliminates the two-step process and allows a partnership to convert to any other type of business organization if they meet the criteria of the proposed statute. **Enrolled.**

# ISBA 2026 Affirmative Agenda

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## **HF 2619 – Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act (Family Law)**

- Currently, all filings can be expedited in the Secretary of State’s Office with either a two or five-day service and surcharge. This legislation provides for one-hour (\$250) and same-day (\$175) filing services and surcharge. The legislation also provides that the Creates the Iowa Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act, governing arbitration in family disputes. It establishes procedures for arbitration agreements, arbitrator qualifications, and award enforcement, while also providing immunity for arbitrators and allowing for appeals **Signed by Governor.**

## **SF 523 – *Frazier Fix* (Family Law)**

- Amends Iowa Code section 598.1(3) that defines “joint custody” and “joint legal custody” in order to give courts authority to unbundle legal custodial rights. Creates a new section in Iowa Code Chapter 598 that grants Iowa courts express jurisdiction to resolve disputes between joint legal custodians without having to terminate the parents’ joint legal custody status. **Funneled**

## **SF 542 - Suspension of Child Support in Juvenile Cases (Family Law)**

- Amends Iowa Code to allow for the Suspension of Child Support when custody is transferred from payor to payee through a juvenile court dispositional or permanency order. This proposal clarifies the terms of suspension of child support, provides procedures for such suspension and provides procedures for the suspension to end. **Enrolled**

# ISBA 2026 Affirmative Agenda

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## **SF 2198 – Priority in Medical Decision Making (Probate)**

- Amends §144B.6 to clarify priority and scope in medical decision making for Durable Powers of Attorney for Health Care decisions. **Signed by Governor.**

## **HF 2749 – Update to Required Declarations of Value (Real Estate & Probate)**

- Subsection 428A.2(22) was adopted in 2023 as part of the ISBA’s affirmative legislative agenda. This exempts gfrom the requirement to pay transfer tax a deed from a trust that distributes trust assets to trust beneficiaries, which mirrors a provision related to distributions from an estate (428A.2(20)). The 2023 legislation overlooked the provisions of Section 428A.1. This legislation would update section 428A.1(2) to add section 428A.2(22) to list of exemptions from filing DOV. The legislation also removes the requirement to file a DOV in sections 425A.2(14)- deeds for the merger of a LLC. **Enrolled**

# ISBA 2026 Affirmative Agenda

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## **SF 2365 Public Construction Projects Notice Requirement (Construction Law)**

- Iowa Code Section 573.16 prohibits a claimant from filing a lawsuit on a claim until the expiration of 30 days after final acceptance of the project. That Section also contains a short 60-day statute of limitations upon claimants, which is triggered upon final acceptance of the project. This proposal amends Iowa Code Section 573.16 to require a public owner, no later than 14 days after final acceptance, to send to the principal contractor, surety, and claimants written notification of the date when the public owner finally accepted. The legislation also provides that a public owner shall not be liable for claims or damages related to its failure to send the written notification. **Enrolled.**

# ISBA 2026 Affirmative Agenda

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## HF 2532- Probate & Trust Omnibus (Probate & Trust Law)

- This proposal makes multiple substantive and technical fixes to Iowa Probate and Trust Law to ensure the efficient administration of justice. This includes the following:
  - Creates new §633A.6203. Nature of Proceedings that establishes procedural and notice requirements for contested trusts.
  - Amends §633.361 to extend the time period a personal representative has to file an inventory to court from 90 to 120 days.
  - Clarifies how damages in wrongful death should be distributed when they belong to the estate by striking and replacing Iowa Code §633.336.
  - Creates new Iowa Code §614.1(2B) with respect to non-testamentary transfers.
  - Creates new §633.163 – Attorneys Fees and Costs that allows the court to award Attorneys fees in cases involving contested disputes in the administration of the estate.
- **Enrolled**

# Status of the State Budget

## Net Receipts Plus Transfers:

- FY 2019 Actual	\$7.859 billion
- FY 2020 Actual	\$7.931 billion (0.9%)
- FY 2021 Actual	\$8.801 billion (10.97% or \$870 million)
- FY 2022 Actual	\$9.803 billion (11.4% or \$1.002 billion)
- FY 2023 Actual	\$9.845 billion (0.4% or \$42 million vs. FY 22 Actual)
<b>- FY 2024 Actual</b>	<b>\$9.756 billion (-0.9% or -\$89 million vs. FY 23 Actual)</b>
- FY 2025 Oct Est	\$9.239 billion (-5.3% or -\$516 million vs. FY 24 Actual)
- FY 2025 Dec Est	\$9.154 billion (-6.2% or -\$602 million vs. FY 24 Actual)
<b>- FY 2025 March Est</b>	<b>\$9.135 billion (-6.4% or -\$621 million vs. FY 24 Actual)</b>
- FY 2026 Oct Est	\$8.659 billion (-6.3% or -\$580 million vs FY 25 Oct Est.)
- FY 2026 Dec Est	\$8.726 billion (-4.7% or -\$428 million vs FY 25 Oct Est.)
<b>- FY 2026 March Est</b>	<b>\$8.508 billion (-6.9% or -\$627 million vs FY 25 Oct Est.)</b>

# Status of the State Budget

Net Appropriations for FY 2020	\$7.819 billion
Net Appropriations for FY 2021	\$7.823 billion
Net Appropriations for FY 2022	\$8.124 billion
Net Appropriations for FY 2023	\$8.212 billion
Net Appropriations for FY 2024	\$8.547 billion
Enacted Appropriations for FY 2025	\$8.910 billion

**Governor Reynolds FY 2026 preliminary budget is \$9.429 billion which is \$921 million above the revenues identified by the March REC for FY 2026.**



# Status of the State Budget

The state has significant reserve funds in the following areas:

Cash Reserve Fund	\$721 million
Economic Emergency Fund	\$240 million
Taxpayer Relief Fund	\$3.75 billion
<u>Ending Balance/Surplus Carry Fwd.</u>	<u>\$2.05 billion</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6.761 billion</b>

# Legislation Being Tracked – Signed by the Governor

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## HF 2660 - Very Small Estates.

- A bill for an act relating to decedent property, including deposit accounts, small estate affidavits, and distribution of child support. Raises the value of personal property from a small estate that can be distributed by an affidavit to \$100,000. Allows the successor of a decedent with a small estate to access any undistributed child support payments held by Child Support Services. Requires the creation of a form. Eliminates outdated estate tax provisions

## HF 2337 – Fraudulent Use of Professional Titles

Makes it a fraudulent practice to falsely represent having an academic degree in order to obtain employment or for personal gain. Makes it an aggravated misdemeanor. Requires this be done knowingly and with intent.

# Legislation Being Tracked – Signed by the Governor

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## SF 2463 – Including Name Change in Dissolution Decrees.

Requires a court to issue a document on a name change due to a divorce that does not include other information on the divorce. Under current law, a name change request is a separate filing and fee.

## HF 2571 – Insanity Acquittals

Specifies additional factors to be considered in determining whether a defendant continues to be mentally ill (including the offense, and past behavioral, MH/SA issues and expert testimony/risk assessment) and deems that a recent absence of overt acts cannot be the sole determining factor. Requires revised rules of criminal procedure to be submitted to the Legislative Council by August 14, 2026.

## HF 2515 – Sexual Exploitation of a Minor

Prohibits offenders convicted of the sexual exploitation of a minor under 12, or a minor who is prepubescent, from being eligible for a deferred or suspended sentence.

# Legislation Being Tracked – Signed by the Governor

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## **HF 2356 – SPD Child Welfare Pilot Project Expansion**

Establishes a permanent Program in the State Public Defender’s Office to allow for innovative models of legal representation to help children and families in need into a permanent program. Saves the Indigent Defense fund 1. million dollars per year.

## **HF 2349 – Final Disposition of Remains**

Gives the next competent person listed in the Code section the authority to intervene in regard to remains if the designated person does not act after notice

## **HF 2232 – Final Exploitation of Vulnerable Adults**

Allows an additional 55-day delay for certain insurance payments that have been delayed due to concerns about financial exploitation. Allows an insurer or qualified individual to notify the Insurance Commissioner about possible financial exploitation, or to notify designated third parties. Includes good faith protections and training requirements.

# Legislation Being Tracked – Signed by the Governor

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## SF 2416 - Child Abuse Interviews

Allows a forensic examiner at a child abuse center to interview a child to develop information to protect the child. Allows a court, on a showing of probable cause, to allow an officer to interview the child at the home, without the permission of the parent

## SF 2114 – Intimidation with a Dangerous Weapon

amends the crime of intimidation with a dangerous weapon by removing language that refers to the shooting, throwing, launching, or discharging of a dangerous weapon within an assembly of people, and thereby placing the occupants or people in reasonable apprehension of serious injury from Iowa Code section 708.6, and adds language for the shooting, throwing, launching, or discharging of a dangerous weapon at another person

# Legislation Being Tracked – Signed by the Governor

## **SF 2463 – Uniform Rules on Agency Procedure Act**

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Rescinds specified agency administrative rules relating to subjects addressed by uniform rules on agency procedure, effective July 1, 2026;

Rescinded rules remain applicable to proceedings initiated before that date.

The bill temporarily authorizes agencies to adopt emergency rules modifying uniform rules until June 30, 2026, without regulatory analysis, contingent on a determination of necessity. This emergency rulemaking authority expires July 1, 2026.

If an agency does not have rules in effect concerning a matter relating to a subject addressed in uniform rules on agency procedure adopted pursuant to subsection 1, uniform rules adopted pursuant to subsection 1 concerning the matter shall apply to the agency as though the agency had adopted them.

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **SF 512 – Court Changes to Statute of Limitations**

- Clarifies the Iowa General Assembly's authority to alter time limitations for civil actions under Code section 614.1. The bill ensures that only the General Assembly can change the statute of limitations for various civil actions, including personal injuries and contract disputes. **Enrolled**

## **SF 291 – Vexatious Litigation**

- Makes filing, defending, or asserting a civil claim in bad faith or without a reasonable basis a serious misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in confinement and a fine between \$430 and \$2,560. **Funneled**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **SF 586 - Litigation Financing**

- Creates the Litigation Financing Transparency and Consumer Protection Act, requiring registration of litigation financiers, imposing business conduct limitations, and mandating contract disclosures. It also establishes exemptions, joint liability, and regulatory oversight, taking effect on January 1, 2026, for civil actions involving litigation financiers. **In Senate Ways & Means.**

## **SF 394 - Pesticide Warning Labels**

- Provides a defense from civil liability for pesticide use, if the pesticide is registered with the EPA and its label meets one of three criteria: EPA approval, consistency with human health assessments, or EPA's carcinogenicity classification, thereby satisfying state and common law warning requirements. **Funneled in House.**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **SF 521 – Attorney fees in Contempt**

- Allows Iowa courts to order individuals who willfully disobey a temporary order or final decree in a dissolution of marriage proceeding to pay the opposing party's reasonable attorney fees incurred as a result of their contemptuous actions. **Funneled in House**

## **SHF 472 – Consideration of Educational Setting**

- Enacts the Uniform Public Expression Protection Act, creating a special motion for expedited relief in actions involving freedom of speech, press, assembly, and association. It aims to protect these rights by providing a swift and cost-effective process to dismiss meritless lawsuits. **On Senate Unfinished Business Calendar**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **HF 932 – Joint Physical Custody**

- Requires parents seeking joint physical custody to submit a proposed parenting plan. If denied, the court must list requirements for future consideration. Fulfilling these requirements is considered a substantial change in circumstances for modifying custody orders. The custodial parent cannot impede the other's progress. **Funneled in Senate**

## **SF 514– Temporary Orders of Child Custody**

- Requires Iowa courts to award temporary joint physical care of a child to both parties during dissolution proceedings, unless a rebuttable presumption exists against one party. If joint care is deemed inappropriate, the court must cite reasons using factors listed in section 598.41, subsection 3. **Funneled in House**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **SF 570 – Business Courts**

- Creates the Business Court of Iowa, with jurisdiction over commercial transactions exceeding \$10 million and business entity leadership disputes. Three judges will be appointed to serve two-year terms, utilizing advanced technology and establishing court rules. The bill takes effect September 1, 2025. **In Senate Ways & Means.**

## **HF 602 – Remote Testimony in Criminal Cases**

- Allows Iowa courts to protect minor witnesses from trauma by ordering testimony to be taken in a separate room and televised via two-way, closed-circuit equipment. This aims to prevent impairment of the minor's ability to communicate in the presence of the defendant. **Funneled**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **SF 362/HF 921 – Peace Officer Bill of Rights Update**

- Amends Iowa's peace officer, public safety, and emergency personnel bill of rights. It provides timely access to investigative reports, limits prosecutor involvement in Brady-Giglio cases, and expands peer support counselor confidentiality. The bill also applies disciplinary appeal provisions to part-time deputy sheriffs. **In House Ways & Means.**

## **HF 328 – Recorder Update**

- Amends Iowa's county recorder fees and land record information systems management. It requires county recorders to upload recorded documents to the county land record information system and allows for an additional fee of up to \$10 per transaction to be adopted by county governments. **In House Ways & Means.**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **HF 523 – Ability of Peace Officers to File Petition for Emergency Protective Orders for Persons Seeking Relief from Domestic Abuse**

- Allows peace officers to petition for 72-hour emergency protective orders on behalf of individuals claiming immediate domestic abuse danger who request assistance. **Enrolled.**

## **HF 571 - Medical Professionals Protections**

- Protects Iowa health care providers, institutions, and payors from discrimination and liability when refusing services based on conscience, while offering whistleblower and free speech protections. **Enrolled**

## **HF 917 – Civil Liabilities Against Motorcross Facilities**

- Grants Iowa motocross facilities immunity from civil liability for participant injuries or deaths caused by inherent risks of motocross activities, defined to include operator error, weather, and terrain hazards. Liability is preserved for intentional injury, negligence, unsafe equipment, or failure to exercise reasonable care. Facilities must post visible warning signs. The law does not affect claims predating its July 1, 2026 effective date or existing common law defenses. **Enrolled**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **HF 2254 – Prohibition of Noncompete Clauses in Certain Employment Contracts entered into by the University of Iowa**

- Directs the Iowa Board of Regents to establish a policy prohibiting the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics from including noncompete clauses in physician employment contracts. The prohibition applies to contracts entered into, extended, or renewed on or after enactment. A noncompete clause restricts a physician's right to practice geographically or temporally upon contract termination. **Enrolled.**

## **HF 2256 – Exempting a parents/guardians inability to access behavioral or mental health treatment for their child from the definition of child abuse**

- Expands Iowa's Child in Need of Assistance criteria to include chemical dependency and behavioral disorders. It permits CINA adjudication when parents are unable – not just unwilling – to provide treatment, or when efforts to secure treatment fail. The bill removes inability to access mental health treatment from the definition of child abuse. **Enrolled.**

## **HF 2527 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

- Limits civil and criminal liability for climate effects allegedly caused by greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural, renewable fuel, or other sources. Liability requires clear and convincing evidence of violating Iowa emission statutes or permits from the Department of Natural Resources or federal agencies. The bill explicitly does not create rights to bring such actions. **Enrolled**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **HF 2706 - Judicial Magistrates**

- Shifts Iowa magistrate appointments from counties to judicial election districts, revising commission composition and replacing the 206-magistrate cap with a workload-based formula. It creates a senior magistrate program allowing retired magistrates over 78 to serve limited terms. The bill increases judicial officer salaries by 5% and sets magistrate pay at 40% of district associate judge salaries. **Enrolled.**

## **SF 2039- Legislative Intervention in Judicial Review**

- **H-8286**
- Requires a court, in actions involving an administrative agency, to reverse the agency action on the finding of erroneous interpretation of the law. Prohibits the court from deferring to the agency on the meaning of a statute and requires de novo review. Requires the court to exercise any remaining doubt in favor of limiting the authority of an agency. Includes a carve-out for licensing boards on technical issues. **Senate Rejected Amendment**

## **SF 2280 - Safety of General Assembly/Judicial Officers**

- Authorizes professional weapon permits for Iowa legislators, judges, and attorneys general, allowing statewide concealed carry during employment, including on school grounds. **Enrolled**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## SF 2379 – Victim Protections

- Strengthens Iowa victim protections by: expanding victim counselor confidentiality privileges and immunity; allowing lifetime protective orders for sexual offense victims; tightening sex offender registration to 3 days with employment/vehicle reporting; requiring 20-year preservation of sexual assault evidence kits with victim notification rights; expediting mental competency hearings; prioritizing crime victim compensation restitution; and certifying sexual assault nurse examiners while expanding secondary victim definitions to foster parents and custodians. **Enrolled.**

## SF 2399 – Bail & Bond Amounts

- Establishes minimum bail amounts for violent felonies in Iowa, effective July 1, 2026. It sets presumptive bonds of \$500,000 for Class A felonies, \$25,000 for Class B forcible felonies, \$10,000 for Class C, and \$5,000 for Class D. Courts must consider public safety and the defendant's financial resources. The presumption may be rebutted if the amount exceeds what is necessary to ensure court appearance or community safety. Cash deposit or surety bond is required. **Enrolled.**

## SF 2417 – Chatbots

- Regulates conversational AI services in Iowa, requiring operators to disclose AI interactions to minors, prohibit engagement rewards, prevent sexual content involving minors, and mandate human-simulation disclosures. It requires suicide crisis protocols, prohibits claiming licensed mental health services. No private right of action. **Enrolled.**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **HF 2683 – Pipeline Damage Claims**

- Strengthens landowner pipeline rights by permitting damage claim renegotiation beyond five years, recognizing soil/drainage/irrigation losses, authorizing court actions and utility commission complaints, and accepting GPS yield data. **Placed on Calendar.**

## **HSB 749 – Common Law Tort Immunity**

- Establishes qualified immunity for state employees in tort claims, limiting liability unless clearly established rights are violated, and applies these protections retroactively to pending claims against the state or its employees. **Funneled.**

## **HF – 2719 – District Judge Ratings**

- Mandates annual publication of judicial performance metrics covering pretrial rulings, sentencing, appeals, and efficiency. Requires a public website with searchable judge data, district benchmarks, and personal statements. **Passed house & Senate Subcommittee assigned.**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **HF 2572 - Indigent Defense Task Force**

- Creates a task force to improve legal services for indigent parties in criminal, juvenile, and child abuse proceedings. Addresses defender conflicts, funding, and attorney shortages. **Placed on Calendar.**

## **HF 932 - Temporary Orders of Child Custody**

- Requires parents awarded joint legal custody to submit a joint physical care parenting plan. If the court denies joint physical care, it must list specific requirements for the non-awarded parent to obtain it in the future; fulfilling these constitutes a material change for custody modification. The bill prohibits the custodial parent from interfering with the other parent's efforts to meet these requirements. **Passed house & Senate Subcommittee assigned.**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## **SF 2171 – Qualification for Admission to Practice Law**

- Expands Iowa law bar admission qualifications. Currently requiring law school graduation, the bill adds an alternative: ten years as a General Assembly employee in legislative research/analysis or service as a legislator. The bill also removes the photograph requirement from applications. **Passed Senate Subcommittee.**

## **HF 2246 – Prohibiting DEI Courses in Professional Continuing Education**

- Requires continuing education for licensed professions to relate directly to professional practice, prohibiting boards from mandating unrelated credits. It directs the Supreme Court to remove non-practice-related requirements for attorneys and eliminates the mandate that bar exam candidates graduate from ABA-accredited law schools. **Passed house & Senate Subcommittee assigned.**

## **HF 2760 – Attorney Rural Loan Repayment Program**

- Creates an attorney loan repayment program administered by the College Student Aid Commission. Eligible Iowa law school's graduates licensed in Iowa who practice in-state can receive up to \$10,000 annually for six years toward federal student loans by providing 50 hours yearly of indigent defense. Priority goes to rural practitioners. The program caps participation at 110 attorneys annually and establishes a dedicated fund. **Passed in Subcommittee.**

# Legislation Being Tracked

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## HF 2305 - Clarifying Hospice Care in Guardianships

- Expands Iowa healthcare decision-making by redefining "attending provider" to include physician assistants and nurse practitioners, authorizing them to sign DNR orders. It broadens surrogate decision-makers for incapacitated patients to include relatives and close adult friends, allows guardians to make end-of-life decisions without court approval, and replaces hospice "palliative care" requirements with "symptom management." Enrolled.

## HF 2423 - Grandparent Visitation Rights

- Expands grandparent and great-grandparent visitation rights in Iowa when a parent is deceased. The bill eliminates the requirement to prove the surviving parent unfit or impaired, allowing courts to grant visitation solely based on the child's best interests and an existing substantial relationship. **Funneled.**

## HF 2031 - Brady-Giglio

- Amends Iowa's peace officer bill of rights to require that when an officer successfully appeals placement on a Brady-Giglio list and a district court orders their name removed, the court must award the officer equitable relief, reasonable attorney fees, expenses, and court costs paid by the prosecuting agency. The provision applies retroactively to district court rulings issued on or after July 1, 2021. **In Ways and Means.**

# Questions???

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