



January 15, 2021

Governor Reynolds Condition of the State

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Governor Reynolds delivered her annual Condition of the State address on Tuesday evening rather than the normal Tuesday morning. She stated that the condition of the State is strong and laid out her proposed budget for the legislative session. The Governor also took time to thank healthcare workers who have been on the front lines of the COVID battle and remembered those who passed from this disease. The Governor's plan proposes to spend \$8.1141 billion from the General Fund in FY 2022, which would be an increase of 3.70 percent over her revised FY 2021 budget. Governor Reynolds's budget spends 98.31 percent of the on-going revenue in the General Fund (\$8.2533 billion). Governor Reynolds's Condition of the State address can be read or watched [here](#).

Notable proposals in Tuesday's speech included:

- Allocating \$450 million to increase broadband access to every household in the state by 2025.
- Addressing Iowa's childcare shortage by allocating \$3 million to fund public-private partnerships in developing childcare facilities, as well as using \$25 million in childcare development block grants to promote childcare startups.
- Beginning a review of Iowa's licensing boards and commissions "to make sure they are serving their purpose."
- Using \$1 million for Iowa hospitals and clinics to begin a "center of excellence" program that connects rural physicians with specialists.
- Increasing mental health funding by \$15 million this year and another \$15 million next year.
- Eliminating the triggers for tax reform passed in 2019.
- Additional \$200,000 in funding to expand the number of psychiatric graduating residents and residency positions, for a total investment of \$600,000.
- \$10 million increase proposed this year and next for nursing facility rebasing funds.
- \$3.9 million is proposed for a rate increase for Psychiatric Medical Institutes for Children (PMIC).

In addition to her Condition of the State address, the governor released her proposed budget after her address Tuesday night. A summary of the Governor's budget can be found [here](#).

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House and Senate Leadership Opening Comments

Opening day of the 89th General Assembly was a little different than it has been in the past with new COVID protocols in place. However, both chambers met on Monday to swear in members and formally elect leadership for the session. After the formal swearing in and proceedings, leadership in both chambers gave opening remarks about how they hope to see this session play out. Republican leadership in both chambers highlighted the priorities they hope to tackle this session including childcare access, educational choice, tax reform, and responsible budgeting to help Iowa recover from the coronavirus. Democrat leaders focused on combatting COVID-19 and helping Iowans recover.

Full texts of all the leaders' remarks can be found at the links below:

- [Speaker Grassley's Opening Remarks for the 89th General Assembly.](#)
- [Opening Day Remarks from House Majority Leader Matt Windschitl.](#)
- [Opening Day Remarks from House Minority Leader Todd Prichard.](#)
- [OPENING DAY REMARKS OF SENATE PRESIDENT JAKE CHAPMAN.](#)
- [OPENING DAY REMARKS OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER JACK WHITVER.](#)
- [Opening Day Remarks from Senate Minority Leader Zach Wahls.](#)

Week in Review

As speeches were made and priorities were laid out, the Legislature got to work with the introduction of bills, committee meetings and subcommittees. Several bills from have been filed and referred to committees and several subcommittees are already scheduled for next week to consider each individual bill. Committee chairs in both the House and Senate held organizational meetings this week to introduce members of their committees as well as highlight priorities of the committees. The clock now begins ticking as the first funnel is now officially 7 weeks away. The first funnel is March 5 and represents the day that House/Senate bills must be voted out of their body's full committee to remain alive; however, this does not apply to Appropriations and Ways and Means bills.

Bills to Note

SF 4 CERTIFICATE OF NEED (Zaun) (Human Resources)

Eliminates the Certificate of Need process for approval of health care institutions.

SF 5 HEALTH CARE COST LISTS (Zaun) (Human Resources) Costello, Garrett, and Ragan.

Requires health care providers to list the costs for the 25 most common procedures and to make the list available to the public and for hospitals to make the costs for the 75 most common procedures available to the public. Requires the services to be identified by a nationally recognized code and for the use of plain language. Requires a disclaimer that the price list is not legally binding and that prices can change SF4 (Zaun) Eliminates the Certificate of Need process for approval of health care institutions.

HF5 Healthcare Recruitment (Education) Bossman (C), Kerr, and Winckler.

Opens repayment eligibility for working in eligible rural communities to graduates other than from DMU.

HSB 50 INSULIN PRESCRIPTION COSTS (Human Resources) Jeneary (C), Bennett, Boden

Requires insurance coverage for prescription drugs to include cap cost-sharing for insulin prescriptions at no more than \$100 for a monthly supply. Effective for policies after January 2022.

HSB 51 EMERGENCY PRESCRIPTIONS (Human Resources) Bradley (C), Forbes, Osmundson

Allows a pharmacist to refill a prescription with authorization from the prescriber once a year after exercising professional judgment. Limits such a refill to a one-month supply.

HSB 59 SURGICAL SMOKE (State Government) Lundgren (C), Hunter, A Meyer

Requires hospital and surgical centers to adopt policies to eliminate surgical smoke through the use of evacuation systems. Makes definitions.

SF 81 PRIMARY CARE PILOT PROJECT (Garrett) (Human Resources)

Requires Medicaid to establish a pilot project to allow recipients to enter into a primary care arrangement with an outside provider, and Medicaid acting as the payor. Includes childless adults and pregnant women in the eligible population. Starts January 2022.

SSB 1042 RURAL PRIMARY CARE LOANS (Education) Cournoyer (C), Quirnbach, J Taylor

Adds OB-GYN eligible for loan repayment under the Rural Primary Care Loan Repayment program. Strikes the requirement that exceptional circumstances apply before a participant in the program can have a loan repayment program for a part-time practice over an extended period. Adds a city meeting certain population requirements and within a federal MH shortage area to participate after contributing \$20,000 to fund for a psychiatric physician.

Department Updates

Department of Management Director Dave Roederer announced that he will be retiring at the end of the month ending his 38-year career in state government. Roederer was appointed to the position in 2011 and served in the Iowa Department of Public Safety, the Iowa Criminal and Juvenile Justice, the Iowa Department of Commerce, in the Governor's Office, and at Iowa State University. Governor Reynolds will name an interim director at a later date.

On Tuesday, Governor Reynolds named Adam Steen Director of Department of Administrative Services. Steen's appointment was effective on January 11 and is subject to confirmation by the State Senate. The appointment comes after Jim Kurtenbach resigned earlier this year. Steen currently serves as Director of Business Development at Syverson Strege.

Thursday, Gov. Reynolds announced the hiring of Taryn Frideres to serve as her new Chief Operating Officer. Taryn is an Iowa native who is joining the Governor's team from the United States Department of State. Gov. Reynolds also announced the appointment of Paul Trombino as Director of the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Paul was serving as interim director of the Department of Administrative Services as well as the Governor's Chief Operating Officer. His appointment is effective January 22, 2021.

Employer Grant Programs

Governor Reynolds said that \$1.2 million in grants is now available through two grant programs from Future Ready Iowa. The two grant programs include the Iowa Employer Innovation Fund which can help Iowans earn post-secondary degrees by issuing grants to help employers, non-profits, and schools with services like books, internet, and childcare transportation. The other grant program is the Child Care Challenge Fund which helps build new childcare facilities or repurpose older facilities and other structures to be used as childcare centers. Governor Reynolds hopes to have 70% of Iowans in the workforce with higher education or training by 2025.

2021 Session Intern

Cornerstone's session intern for the 2021 General Assembly is Rebecca Boyer, a third-year law student at Drake. Rebecca grew up on a hog and row crop farm outside Ringsted, IA in Emmet County and has been involved in state politics for several years. She also has legislative experience from being a page in the Iowa House during high school and clerking during the 2019 session. Rebecca is excited to part of the Cornerstone team this session!

In the News

Below are articles of interest from the week. Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

- [Iowa Department of Public Health publishes COVID-19 vaccination data, website update coming soon.](#)
- [Iowa expects sports wagering boost with remote registration now allowed.](#)
- [IDPH announces next phase of COVID-19 vaccine distribution.](#)
- [Test Iowa sites closed on MLK Day.](#)
- [Iowa chief justice: In-person trials will resume in February.](#)



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2021 Legislative Update

Next Week's Schedules

IOWA SENATE - Schedule for Week 2, January 18-22, 2021

Subject to Change

Monday, January 18	Tuesday, January 19	Wednesday, January 20	Thursday, January 21	Friday, January 22
NO SESSION IN HONOR OF MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY	10:00 SESSION 11:00 Agriculture	9:00 SESSION 10:00 Veterans Affairs 11:00 Hmn. Res.	9:00 SESSION 10:00 State Govt. 11:00 Education	
Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon
	1:00 Judiciary 2:00 Transportation 3:00 Commerce 4:00 Labor/Bus.	1:00 Local Govt. 2:00 Ntl. Resources 3:00 Judiciary	1:00 Appropriations 2:00 Ways and Means	All committees meet in Senate chamber

Prepared in the Office of Senate Majority Leader Jack Whitver

Last updated on January 14, 2021

House of Representatives Schedule for Week 2, January 18 - 22, 2021 Prepared in the Office of House Speaker Pat Grassley

Monday, January 18	Tuesday, January 19	Wednesday, January 20	Thursday, January 21	Friday, January 22
	8:00 Subcommittee Block Reserve Subcommittee space with the clerk's office 10:00 SESSION 11:30 Budget Subs Admin/Reg - Rm. 19 Ag- Rm 15 Eco Devo- Rm 103 Education - Rm. 102	7:30 Subcommittee Block Reserve Subcommittee space with the clerk's office 8:30 SESSION 9:30 Budget Subs HHS- Rm 103 Justice Systems - Rm 19 Tran/Infra/Caps - Rm. 102, Sup. Ct. Consult 11:00 State Government Law Library Economic Growth RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Public Safety RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	7:30 Subcommittee Block Reserve Subcommittee space with the clerk's office 8:30 SESSION 9:30 Transportation Law Library InfoTech RM 19 Environmental Protection RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Veterans Affairs RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber 10:30 Education Law Library 11:30 Subcommittee Block Reserve Subcommittee space with the clerk's office	
Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon
MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY NO SESSION	1:00 Subcommittee Block Reserve Subcommittee space with the clerk's office 2:00 Education Law Library Commerce RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber 3:00 Judiciary Law Library Natural Resources RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Labor RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber 4:00 Administration and Rules RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	12:00 Subcommittee Block Reserve Subcommittee space with the clerk's office 2:00 Human Resources Law Library Local Government RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Agriculture RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber 3:00 Ways and Means Law Library 4:00 Judiciary Law Library	1:00 Public Safety Law Library State Government RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber 3:00 Subcommittee Block Reserve Subcommittee space with the clerk's office	

Key Dates for 2021 Session

The new Iowa Legislative Session Timetable has been published. Here is the [link](#) and included below is important dates as we approach the 2021 Iowa legislative session.

January 11	First Day of Legislative Session
January 12	Governor's Budget Released Governor gives her Condition of the State Address to Joint Session
February 12	Final day for individual Senator/Representative Bill Requests
March 5	First Funnel. All Senate and House bills must be out of one full committee
April 2	Second Legislative Funnel. Corresponding chamber must vote bills out of a full committee to remain "alive"
April 12	Amendments need not be filed on the day preceding floor debate
April 30	110 th Day of the session. Per diem expenses for legislators end.



Katelyn O'Hare | Frank Chiodo | David Adelman | Matt Paul | Matt Hinch | Jimmy Centers | Sara Allen