



**Week 12: 4/4/2019**

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**Week in Review**

Today marks the end of the second legislative funnel. This is a self imposed deadline that requires most bills to have cleared one full chamber and the corresponding chambers full committee. This is a process that helps identify true priority bills of both the House and Senate. As policy bills dwindle, legislators turn their focus to the budget. The next several weeks will be spent in full debate in both the House and Senate as they continue to move bills down to the Governor for her consideration.

Several notable bills failed to advance past the second funnel. These include: felon voting right restoration (which was a priority of Governor Reynolds) and several welfare benefit oversight bills. The House and Senate both began moving budget bills; which soaked up a significant amount of time spent in floor debate.

The House and Senate have still not agreed to joint budget targets. Until joint targets are met and agreed to, the budgets only show each individual chamber’s priorities—which will be amended once joint budget targets are announced. Every year each chamber is tasked with introducing its version first before the other chamber. The chart below reflects this first step in the process.

	House Bill	Senate Bill	Agreement/Status
Admin and Reg.	<a href="#">HSB 249</a>		House appropriations approved.
Ag. & Natl Resources		<a href="#">SF 609</a>	Voted out of Senate Appropriations.
Eco. Development		<a href="#">SF 608</a>	Voted out of Senate Appropriations.
Education	<a href="#">HSB 248</a>		Voted out of full House
Human Services	<a href="#">HSB 253</a>		Passed House Appropriations.
Justice Systems		<a href="#">SSB 1255</a>	Passed Full Appropriations.
Judicial Branch		<a href="#">SSB 1254</a>	Passed Full Appropriations.
RIIF	<a href="#">HSB 251</a>		Passed House subcommittee
Transportation		<a href="#">SF 600</a>	Voted out of full Senate
Unassigned Standings			

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**Bills on the Move**

Medical Cannabidiol. In subcommittee work, the Senate subcommittee for [HF 732](#), a bill dealing with medical cannabidiol, approved the bill. The bill expands the illnesses covered and replaces the cap on the amount of THC in cannabidiol to controls on the amount a patient can possess. Senators are reluctant to make changes to the bill after the House passed the bill on a 96-3 vote. The Senate committee did announce in full committee their intent to amend the bill; if this occurs, the bill will go back to the House.

Notice and Opportunity to Repair Construction Defects. [HF 678](#), a bill that allows contractors an opportunity to repair construction defects in new construction—specific to class action lawsuits passed the Iowa House unanimously The bill now goes to the Governor.

Native Distilled Spirits. The House passed [SF 230](#), a bill that makes changes to manufacturing rights of native distilleries and breweries, moved through the House unanimously.



### House Property Tax Bill Explained

The House property tax bill, [HSB 165](#) has cleared a House subcommittee and is eligible to be considered in the House Ways and Means Committee. The legislation and a strike-after amendment will be offered. The House Republican staff released the description below. Although a strike after amendment will be offered, the overall explanation below has not been materially changed.

The legislation seeks to limit the growth of city and county budgets to two percent per year. Under the bill, to figure out what a local budget can be (and therefore what needs to be levied) for the next year, local governments will have to start with their prior year’s budget. To explain it simply—they would be able to levy up to two percent more than last year’s budget. When they receive their property valuations—the Department of Management will assist in calculating what the levy needs to be in order to collect the correct amount of property tax.

The legislation recognizes that there are some funds that need to be outside of this calculation of up to 102 percent. The legislation leaves all net new property out of the limitation. If a city had a new development built one year—the legislation would not include that value in the calculation that first year. Additionally—any bonding, mental health, EMS, capital funds, or voted upon levies (symphonies, libraries, etc.) live outside of this limitation calculation. The things that are included in the limitation calculation are the emergency, trust and agency, transit, utility replacement transfers, anything under the city 8.10 levy or the county general or supplemental levies.

The bill also allows for an exception if the local government believes the budget needs to exceed 2%. The council or board simply passes a resolution of their intent to do so. If the taxpayers do not have an issue with it—it is certified and that budget (despite being over the 102 percent) becomes the base for the next year’s calculation. If taxpayers do have an issue with the budget, the bill provides a mechanism for taxpayers to call for a vote on whether the government should go over the 102 percent limitation. If the taxpayers get the requisite signatures, the local government can either abandon the proposal and go back to 102 percent—or wait for the results of the referendum.

The bill also contains some suggestive language on reserve funds. It is not mandatory or statutorily required, but the legislation asks that a local government’s undesignated reserves be kept at 25 percent of the prior year’s budget. If a government has more than that, say for bond repayment and rating purposes, they need only designate those funds for that stated purpose to meet the goal of keeping reserves at a reasonable level.

### In the Legislature Next Week

IOWA SENATE - Schedule for Week 13, April 8-12, 2019

\*\*\*Subject to Change\*\*\*

Monday, April 8	Tuesday, April 9	Wednesday, April 10	Thursday, April 11	Friday, April 12
	9:00 SESSION	9:00 SESSION	9:00 SESSION  10:00 Transportation EM 22	
Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon
1:00 SESSION	1:00 Appropriations: EM 22  2:00 SESSION	1:00 Ways and Means: EM 22  2:00 SESSION		On call: Budget Sube, Appropriations, Ways and Means

House of Representatives Schedule for Week 13, April 8 - 12, 2019  
Prepared in the Office of House Speaker Linda L. Upmeyer

Monday, April 8	Tuesday, April 9	Wednesday, April 10	Thursday, April 11	Friday, April 12
	8:30 SESSION  11:00 Ways and Means: EM 102, Sup. Ct. Council Appropriations: EM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	8:30 SESSION	8:30 SESSION	8:30 SESSION
Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon
1:00 SESSION	1:00 SESSION	1:00 Government Oversight: EM 116	1:00 Ways and Means: EM 102, Sup. Ct. Council Appropriations: EM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	ON CALL: Budget Sube
3:00 Ways and Means: EM 102, Sup. Ct. Council Appropriations: EM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber		2:00 Ways and Means: EM 102, Sup. Ct. Council Appropriations: EM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  3:00 SESSION		



### Key Dates

<b>January 14</b>	First Day of Legislative Session
<b>February 15</b>	Last Day for individual Senator/Representative Bill Requests
<b>March 8</b>	First Legislative Funnel (Originating chamber bills must be voted out of a full committee to remain “alive”)
<b>March 15</b>	Revenue Estimating Conference Meets
<b>April 5</b>	Second Legislative Funnel (Corresponding chamber must vote bills out of a full committee to remain “alive”)
<b>April 15</b>	Amendments need not be filed on the day preceding floor debate
<b>May 3</b>	110 <sup>th</sup> Day of the session. Per diem expenses for legislators end.

### In the News

1. [Public Land Acquisition Bill Advances In Iowa House](#)
2. [Is Windsor Heights Ready to Pull the Plug on Traffic Cameras?](#)
3. [Iowa Senate Considering House Bill to Allow More Potent Medical Marijuana](#)
4. [Polk County House Values Increase at Least 10%](#)
5. [GOP Senators Say Parameters Needed in Felon Voting Rights Restoration](#)
6. [Underfunding and Other Program Challenges Led to UnitedHealthcare’s Exit](#)
7. [Northey Says SW Iowa Flooding ‘Worse than it Looks in Pictures’](#)
8. [Farm Losses Drive Iowa’s Flood Damage to \\$2B, Farm Bureau Estimates](#)



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