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**Week in Review**

The second week of session was truncated due to the observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday. Appropriation subcommittees had their initial meetings and presentations from the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) staff regarding the Governor's proposed budget. Other committees began receiving reports from various state agency directors.

Leaders in both chambers are still working behind closed doors to come up a necessary "deappropriations" bill for this current fiscal year. As reported last week, the Governor laid out her deappropriations recommendations which totaled \$19million when she released her budget proposal. The House and Senate have yet to release their bills but it is believed that once they do, the bills will move quickly through both chambers. We expect both house and senate republican leadership want to cut more than the Governor's \$19 million. Additionally, leaders in both chambers are finalizing a bill to improve water quality in Iowa. Once these two bills are agreed to and moving, activity on other matters will pick up significantly.

**DHS Director Speaks to Senate Committee**

Department of Human Services Director, Jerry Foxhoven, spoke before the Senate Human Resources Committee this week to give a Department update and discuss managed care. Much of the discussion centered on the state's managed care program and the problems that patients and providers report they continue to have with the managed care companies. Some senators questioned Foxhoven about doing away with managed care and returning to a state managed program. Director Foxhoven was clear that managed care was "here to stay" and that he was committed to making sure the system worked better.

When asked about the cost of eliminating managed care in Iowa, he said the Department is working on a number that would represent the increased cost to the State. He added that eliminating managed care and returning to state managed program would be impractical because the Department no longer has the infrastructure to administer the program (employees, case managers, billing personnel, etc.). He also discussed it as being unfair to patients who would continue to be shuffled around to different administrators.

**Traffic Camera Ban Bills Advance**

Both the House and Senate had subcommittees (HSB 512 & SSB 3005) that moved bills that would ban traffic cameras from Iowa's roadways. Proponents of a ban cite improper and faulty practice by the devices, hefty revenue increases for cities and towns using the devices, lack of due

process, amongst other reasons for reasons to ban traffic camera devices. Cities and law enforcement stand opposed to the bills due to public safety and officer safety concerns.

Another House subcommittee passed out a bill (SF 220) from the Senate last year that would regulate the use of the devices but not outright ban the use of traffic enforcement devices.

The fate of the cameras will be decided as the session continues to advance.

### **Bossman Wins Special Election**

Republican Jacob Bossman won the special election for House District 6, which was formerly held by Rep. Jim Carlin who won the Senate seat vacated by Senator Bill Anderson. Bossman won with 2,152 votes beating Democrat Rita DeJong who brought in 1,712 votes. His victory gives the Republicans 59 members in the House; Democrats remain at 41.

Bossman lives in Sioux City and is the regional director for US Senator Charles Grassley. He will begin serving in the House sometime next week when the final results are certified. House District 6 includes part of southern Sioux City, and other parts of Woodbury County, including Sergeant Bluff, Salix and Bronson.

### **Governor Continues “Unleashing Opportunity” Tour**

The Governor continued her Unleashing Opportunity tour this week and adding additional stops to her schedule. These events were created to give Gov. Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Gregg an opportunity to hear directly from Iowans about how to build a better Iowa and unleash opportunity in every corner of the state. Three stops are scheduled for this Saturday, January 20, 2018 and will be held in Pella, Oskaloosa, and Ottumwa. More information can be found [here](#).

### **Forums**

Below are links to calendars containing information for legislative forums. As more forums are published, more links will be available.

<a href="#">House Democrat Legislative Forums</a>
<a href="#">Senate Democrat Legislative Forums</a>
<a href="#">Senate Republican Legislative Forums</a>

### **In the News**

1. [Traffic Camera Ban Bills Advance](#)
2. [Managed Care is “The Future” –DHS Director](#)
3. [Head of Iowa Communications Network Fired](#)
4. [DHS Director on Foster System in Iowa](#)
5. [Week in Review by Gazette](#)