



## Client Newsletter

*Friday, February 11, 2022*

### **Week in Review**

Precinct caucuses were held on Monday, therefore most Legislators were at home in their districts and the chambers did not gavel in. The first legislative funnel deadline is next week. Both chambers were busy this week getting bills through subcommittee and committee ahead of the first funnel next Friday, February 18. Unless a bill has been assigned to the Appropriations, Ways and Means, or Government Oversight committee, it must pass out of a committee by next Friday to receive further consideration this legislative session. The Senate floor saw it's first debate this week, approving three bills on the floor Thursday. The House also brought two bills to the floor for debate. One was the State Supplemental Aid (SSA) for schools. By law, the Legislature must have SSA finished within 30 days of the Governor's Condition of the State Address. The House debated the SSA formula and dollar amounts and approved an increase.

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### **Governor Reynolds Workforce II Bill Introduced**

During Governor Reynolds' Condition of the State Address she advocated for tax reform, education transparency, and the need to address the state's workforce issues. Her priorities have been broken down into two separate bills this session. The first piece of legislation addresses unemployment and tort reform. The House bill has passed out of committee and we expect the Senate companion to pass out of committee next week. The second piece of legislation addresses the rest of the Governor's priorities. Division III of the bill addresses health care workforce recruitment. This division of the bill relates to the rural Iowa primary care loan repayment program, the health care professional recruitment program, and the health care loan repayment program. More details on both pieces of legislation is below.

## I. Unemployment and Tort Reform Legislation ([HF 2279](#)/[SSB 3093](#))

- The Senate and House continue to move on two bills that address unemployment reductions and tort reform. The House bill, **HF2279**, has been approved by the Labor Committee and Representative Boussetot will be the floor manager. This week, [LSA released the fiscal impact](#) of the bill if passed. As previously reported, the bill sets a "hard cap" on noneconomic damages at \$1M. Additionally, it redefines what should be classified as economic and noneconomic damages. The unemployment provisions of the bill is expected to reduce some costs to the DWD but most of the impact will be to the UE Trust fund and not the GF. LSA estimates that the reduction of benefits to 16 weeks will save the UE trust about \$70 million. The imposition of a one-week waiting period will save the UE trust about \$23 million. The reduction to benefits to workers for closed businesses will save the UE trust about \$4.7 million. The changes to suitable work cannot be estimated but should reduce payments from the UE trust. The tort provisions will limit payments for damages in actions related to injury accidents involving commercial trucks, but do not directly affect the state.
- The Senate held a subcommittee on the companion bill, **SSB3093**. The subcommittee was long and all provisions were discussed by proponents and opponents of the legislation. Moreover, Senator Dickey will floor manage **SF2249**, that deals with the unemployment provisions in both bills. This bill cuts back further on the number of weeks of unemployment. Unemployed workers could have as few as 12 weeks under the Senate bill. The Senate bill also makes a number of other changes not seen in the House proposal, such as requirements for some unemployed workers to do civic workers and additional responsibilities for the DWD. The extra requirements could affect the number of workers who qualify for unemployment and increase the costs of administering the program for the DWD.

## II. Governor's Workforce Bill II ([HSB 682](#)/[SSB 3123](#))

- **Rural Iowa Primary Care Loan Repayment Program:** The rural Iowa primary care loan repayment program provides student loan repayments for medical students who agree to practice as physicians in certain specified areas of the state for five years. Under current law, medical students who are eligible for student loan repayments under the program are required to complete the residency program requirement with an Iowa-based residency program. The bill strikes from this provision the requirement that the residency program be based in Iowa. The bill also authorizes student loan repayment for medical students who will practice neurology and medical students who will practice part-time. The bill defines "part-time practice" as at least 70 percent of a 40-hour workweek.

- **Health Care Professional Recruitment Program:** The health care professional recruitment program provides student loan repayments for certain health care professionals who graduate from an eligible institution and who agree to practice in an eligible rural community in the state. The bill includes community college within the definition of “eligible institution”. The bill includes advanced registered nurse practitioner and registered nurse within the definition of “health care professional”.
- **Health Care Loan Repayment Program:** The health care loan repayment program provides student loan repayments for registered nurses, advanced registered nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and certain nurse educators. The bill modifies the health care loan repayment program to an award program that provides an annual award amount of \$6,000 for not more than five consecutive years to registered nurses, advanced registered nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and certain nurse educators. A part-time nurse educator must practice as a registered nurse or an advanced registered nurse practitioner to qualify for an award under the program. The bill changes the name of the program to the health care award program and makes conforming changes.

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## Bills on the Move

### [HSB 672/ SSB 3080](#) - Governor's Education Program

- **Courses:** Requires school district to publish course syllabi on the internet. Requires course summaries, with explanations how the course meets educational requirements, a listing of texts and other materials for the course, a library catalogue, and procedures on how to request the removal of a book using a flowchart, and other information on instruction. Reduces state aid for violations. Requires school districts to establish procedures for the selection and removal of materials from school libraries.
- **Aid:** Creates scholarships (Student First) to make qualified educational costs for students in private 1-12 schools with a family income under 400%. Includes students with individualized education plans and a student who received such funding in the previous year. Caps the number of scholarships at 10,000. Requires the scholarships to be approved annually. Allows the funding to carry forward until the student graduates HS or turns 21. Deems the money to be non-taxable income. Creates a standing appropriation for the program.
- **Supplement:** Establishes a supplement, with a formula, for payments to schools with enrollments under 500 for losses related to the Student First scholarships.  
Social Studies: Requires HS government classes to test students using the US

citizenship test and to submit the results annually to the DOE. Requires the student to score at least a 70 to pass.

- **Private Special Ed:** Allows a private school student needing special education courses to be placed in those courses without prior approval by the AEA. Allows the student to be dually enrolled.
- **Open Enrollment:** Allows the sibling of a student who is appealing a decision to deny an open enrollment request due to harassment that was filed after March 1 to also appeal a decision on open enrollment. Allows such a sibling student to compete immediately in athletics. Librarians: Strikes requirements that a school librarian have an MLS.

### **State Supplemental Aid (SSA) for Schools**

- [HF 2316](#) (Formerly HSB 658) - Sets the SSA at 2.5%. For the school year 2022-23, makes the regular program per-pupil cost equal the regular program cost plus the supplemental and \$5. Makes the appropriation for transportation equity equal to the amount needed to fully fund transportation equity payments. Changes the property tax replacement formula. Governor Reynolds supports the 2.5% increase.
  - On Thursday, the House debated the SSA formula and dollar amounts and approved an increase.
- [SF 2204](#) - Sets the SSA/categorical growth rate at 2.25%. Changes the calculation for the regular per-pupil program cost to add \$10 for one year (the 2022-23 school year). Changes the property tax replacement calculation. Increases the appropriation for transportation equity to the amount needed for full funding.
  - The Senate did not debate this bill on the floor due to Senator Sinclair's absence.

### **Tax Reform**

- [HF 2317](#) (Formerly HSB 626) - This week House Ways and Means approved HSB 626 on a party line vote. The bill is very similar to the Governor's tax proposal (HSB 551) except the House version does not include corporate tax cuts. Additionally, the House bill provides that the Taxpayer Trust Fund will be used to offset any temporary revenue reduction in order protect key priorities like education, health care and public safety. During committee passage of the bill, House Democrats brought thirteen amendments. All amendments were defeated on a party line vote.
- [SF 2206](#) (Formerly SSB 3074) - The Senate Ways & Means Committee approved its tax reform proposal last week, and the bill is out as a successor.
- Both the House and Senate have used centerpieces of the Governor's tax proposal, establishing a flat 4 % tax on individual income tax payers and

elimination of taxes on retirement income. Corporate tax reform and sales tax modernization will continue to be worked on as the two chambers move forward with the legislative process.

#### [HF 2128](#) - **Governor's Biofuels Access Bill**

- The bill will expand access to higher-blend ethanol fuels across the state by requiring more stations to carry higher blends.
- Passed out of Senate Agriculture Committee 13-0.
- The bill will now go to the Senate Ways and Means Committee for debate.

#### [HF 2286](#) (Formerly HSB 614) - **Sports Wagering Fund**

- Replaces the sports wagering fund with the county endowment fund for internet fantasy sports and sports wagering receipts.
- Passed State Government Committee.

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### **Upcoming Legislative Forums**

#### Friday, February 11, 2022

- 2/11/2022 [Legislative Forum-Corydon](#)
- 2/11/2022 [Legislative Forum-Chariton](#)
- 2/11/2022 [Town Hall-Lake Mills](#)
- 2/11/2022 [Legislative Forum-Ankeny](#)
- 2/11/2022 [Legislative Forum-Osceola](#)
- 2/11/2022 [Town Hall-Thompson](#)
- 2/11/2022 [Legislative Forum-Leon](#)
- 2/11/2022 [Town Hall-Forest City](#)
- 2/11/2022 [Legislative Forum-Black Hawk/Bremer Counties](#)

#### Saturday, February 12, 2022

- 2/12/2022 [Legislative Coffee-Creston](#)
- 2/12/2022 [Town Hall-Plainfield](#)
- 2/12/2022 [Legislative Forum-Denison](#)
- 2/12/2022 [Legislative Forum-Corning](#)
- 2/12/2022 [Town Hall-Algona](#)
- 2/12/2022 [Town Hall-Frederika](#)

## In The News

- [DMR: National Republican panel recommends no changes to Iowa's 2024 caucuses](#)
- [IA Cap Dispatch: Bottle bill fight returns in 2022 legislative session](#)
- [Iowa election 2022: Who's running for governor and for Congress?](#)
- [CR Gazette: Iowa House set to debate plan for 2.5% increase in school aid](#)
- [DMR: Nearly 40 Iowa employers recognized as Top Workplaces USA announced](#)
- [Wahls Announces Re-election Campaign for Iowa Senate District 43](#)
- [Ragan Announces She Will Not Run for Re-Election in Iowa Senate District 30](#)
- [Pries Announces Candidacy for Iowa Senate District 23](#)

## Senate Schedule Week 6, February 14 - 18, 2022

### IOWA SENATE - Schedule for Week 6, February 14-18, 2022

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

Monday, February 14	Tuesday, February 15	Wednesday, February 16	Thursday, February 17	Friday, February 18
11:00 Hum Services RM 24	9:00 SESSION  10:00 Local Govt. RM 116  11:00 Labor/Bus. RM 116	9:00 SESSION  10:00 State Govt. RM 116  11:00 Commerce RM 116	9:00 SESSION  10:00 Transportation RM 116  11:00 Education RM 116	
Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon
12:00 Econ Dev G15  1:00 SESSION  Upon Adjournment Commerce RM 116	1:00 Veterans Affairs RM 116  2:00 Agriculture RM 116  3:00 Judiciary RM 116	1:00 Hmn. Res. RM 116  2:00 Ntl. Resources RM 116  3:00 Judiciary RM 116	1:00 Hmn. Res. RM 116  2:00 Judiciary RM 116  3:00 State Govt. RM 116	All committees on call

## House Schedule Week 6, February 14 - 18, 2022

**House of Representatives Schedule for Week 6, February 14 - 18, 2022**  
**Prepared in the Office of House Speaker Pat Grassley**

Monday, February 14	Tuesday, February 15	Wednesday, February 16	Thursday, February 17	Friday, February 18
11:00 Subcommittee Block	7:00 Subcommittee Block  8:30 SESSION  9:00 Local Government RM 19 Agriculture RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Human Resources RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  11:00 Subcommittee Block	7:00 Subcommittee Block  8:30 SESSION  10:00 Natural Resources RM 19 Labor RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Judiciary RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	7:00 Subcommittee Block  8:30 SESSION  10:00 Environmental Protection RM 19 Transportation RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber InfoTech RM 304	
Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon
1:00 SESSION  2:00 Education RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Commerce RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  4:00 Natural Resources RM 19 Judiciary RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Labor RM 304  5:00 Public Hearing: HF2317 RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  6:00 Subcommittee Block	12:00 Veterans Affairs RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult InfoTech RM 304  2:00 Labor RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Judiciary RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  4:00 Public Safety RM 19 Economic Growth RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult State Government RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  6:00 Subcommittee Block	12:00 Subcommittee Block  1:00 Public Safety RM 19 Economic Growth RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult State Government RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  5:00 Subcommittee Block	12:00 Subcommittee Block  1:00 Local Government RM 19 Agriculture RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Human Resources RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  3:00 Education RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult Commerce RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	On Call: All Committees

*The Senate scheduled can be found [here](#).  
The House schedule can be found [here](#).*

**The Iowa Cornerstone Team**



Matt Hinch | Lillie Brady | David Adelman | Frank Chiodo | Sara Allen

## 2022 Session Timeline

The full 2022 legislative calendar can be found [here](#).  
Below are the key dates of interest.

**JANUARY 10** – First day of session (Iowa Code Sec. 2.1)

**JANUARY 11** - Governors Condition of the State Address

**FEBRUARY 18** – 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 (First Funnel)

**MARCH 18** – 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 (Second Funnel)

**APRIL 19** – 100th calendar day of the session (Per diem expenses end)

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*Please don't hesitate to reach out  
to our team with any comments,  
questions, or concerns.*



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