



## Healthcare Weekly Newsletter

*Friday, February 18, 2022*

### Week in Review

This week marked the first funnel deadline of the legislative session. It was a busy week as legislators pushed bills through subcommittees and committees to keep them alive past the legislatively imposed deadline today. Many bills did not make the deadline, leaving them "dead" for the session.

On Thursday, Governor Reynolds signed into law the first bill of the 2022 legislative session. [House File 2316](#) increases the state's public education budget for fiscal year 2023 by 2.5% per pupil, resulting in \$159 million in new money for Iowa's K-12 public schools.

On Wednesday, the House passed their tax reform bill on a 61-37 vote. Their proposal would gradually decrease the income tax rate until all Iowans pay a 4% "flat" rate by tax year 2026. Also, beginning in tax year 2023, there would be no retirement income tax and the bill would introduce new exemptions for retired farmers. Iowa House Democrats offered six amendments to the bill that lost and one amendment that was withdrawn. The House tax plan is now eligible for consideration in the Senate. Senate Republicans have their own plan ([SF 2206](#)) to lower the income tax rate to 3.6%, reduce the corporate tax rate to 7.8%, and remove \$141 million of corporate exemptions. It would also fund water quality and outdoor recreational programs by shifting the current local option sales tax and applying it statewide.

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### House and Senate Release Budget Targets

On Tuesday, the Senate released their overall budget targets for FY 2023. The total budget target is \$8,201.7 billion, the same amount Governor Reynolds released in her budget in January.

The new spending highlights from the Senate Budget proposal include:

- Net Increase in Spending – \$76.8 million, a 0.9 percent increase
- Total New Spending – \$283 million, a 3.5 percent increase
- New funds to K-12 schools – \$159 million, 57 percent of all new spending
- Funds transportation equity and continues to address per pupil equity
- Provides an increase of \$71.2 million for mental health funding, eliminates the county property tax levy, and provides property tax relief to Iowa families

On Thursday, the House released their spending plan for the FY 2023 state budget. Their budget target is \$8.2738 billion. This is an increase of \$149.9 million over the current year spending level of \$8.1249 billion. The largest increase goes to the state's local school districts. These increases are included in HF 2316, which the Governor signed into law on Thursday afternoon.

Below is the funding breakdown of various budget subcommittees:

	<b>Estimated FY 2022</b>	<b>House Budget FY 2023</b>	<b>House Budget vs FY 2022</b>
Administration and Regulation	\$ 149,639,168	\$ 51,212,268	\$ -98,426,900
Agriculture and Natural Resources	48,808,995	54,058,995	5,250,000
Economic Development	47,998,126	49,500,151	1,502,025
Education	972,357,588	1,004,141,874	31,784,286
Health and Human Services	2,047,813,669	2,101,392,725	53,579,056
Justice System	814,378,235	834,433,338	20,055,103
State Aid to Schools & other			
Standing Appropriations	4,043,885,098	4,179,086,968	135,201,870
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,124,880,879</b>	<b>\$ 8,273,826,319</b>	<b>\$ 148,945,440</b>

The net overall spend difference between the House and the Senate is roughly \$72M (with the House having the higher overall budget). The budget will be impacted by negotiations on tax reform and the March Revenue Estimating Conference could result in some changes to the overall budget targets.

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### Bills On The Move

[SSB 3093](#) (renumbered as [SF 2275](#)) - Unemployment Reductions/ Tort Reform

- This bill moved out of the Senate Commerce committee this week, with a vote of 9-5.
- Torts: Limits the liability of employers for torts/damages related to truck/commercial vehicle accidents as well as for medical malpractice lawsuits.
- Unemployment: Requires a one-week waiting period for unemployment. Reduces the calculations for maximum benefits to sixteen weeks. Defines misconduct and gives examples. Lowers the amount for suitable wages. Allows for any ALJ decision to be appealed to the district court without going through the Employment Appeals boards. Makes decisions more broadly applicable rather than binding only the parties.
- This week, LSA also released a [fiscal note](#) on the bill.
- Floor Manager: Sen. Schultz
- As previously reported, The House bill, **HF2279**, has been approved by the Labor Committee and Representative Bousset will be the floor manager. That fiscal note can be read [here](#).
- Moreover, Senator Dickey will floor manage [SF2249](#), out of the Senate Labor Committee, but SF 2249 has more extensive provisions and reductions.

#### [SSB 3071](#) (renumbered as SF2276) - **Direct Care Providers**

- Makes additional health care professionals eligible to enter into a direct health care agreement to offer health care services.
- PASSED 9-5
- Floor Manager: Williams

#### [HSB 647](#) - **Medical Freedom Act**

- Strikes the current prohibitions against businesses requiring proof of COVID immunizations and enacts a broad restriction against schools, businesses, employers and governments from asking about medical treatments, immunizations and other matters, including immunization passports, a prohibition on offering incentives, and on other related matters. Prohibits businesses from requiring masks based on the medical history/immunization of a person. Establishes liability provisions.
- AMENDED & PASSED 14-8
- FM: Jacobsen
- There has been various vaccine related bills introduced throughout the session. This bill remains alive as well as [SF2028](#), [SF2088](#), [SF2079](#), and HF2169. These

vaccine bills have died: SF2012, SF2030, SF201, SF2032, SF2033, HF2036, SSB3035, SSB3037, and SF2052.

### SF 2210 - **Healthcare Worker Employment Agencies**

- Requires health care employment agencies to register with the DIA. Establishes fees and defines such agencies. Requires the agency to make employees comply with the requirements and qualifications for health care workers. Prohibits non-compete clauses. Requires reports to the DIA. Allows a denial of registration for agencies that fail the requirements.
- PASSED 13-0
- Floor Manager: Costello

### HF 2399 (Formerly HSB 650) - **Prior Authorization**

- Prohibits a Utilization Review Committee from limiting or revoking a prior authorization after the health care service has been provided. Requires the provider to be reimbursed at the contracted rate.
- AMENDED & PASSED 14-9
- Floor Manager: Andrews

### SSB 3116 - **MHDS Funding**

- Allows the cash reserves for an MH/DS combined regional account to reach 10% before being disqualified from receiving funding from the MH/DS incentive fund.
- PASSED 13-0
- Floor Manager: Edler

### HF 2420 (Formerly HF 2267) - **Newborn Infants**

- Increases the age of a baby who is eligible to be dropped off under the newborn safe act to 60 days.
- PASSED 21-0
- Floor Manager: Osmundson

### HF 244 (Formerly HSB 625) - **Palliative Care**

- Defines palliative care teams and serious illness for the purposes of palliative care.
- AMENDED & PASSED 21-0
- Floor Manager: Bush

### [HSB 723](#) - Iowa Health Network

- Requires all hospitals to contract with the non-profit designated by the DPH to handle the Iowa Health Information Network and to comply with all the requirements regarding the network.
- AMENDED & PASSED 20-0
- Floor Manager: Fry

### [HF 2316](#) - 2.5 SSA

- 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. Other: Exempts the bill from deadlines for passing the SSA after the submission of the budget by the Governor.
- The House PASSED the bill 57-39 (2/10)
- The Senate PASSED the bill 31-17
- The Governor signed this bill into law on Thursday afternoon

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## Upcoming Legislative Forums

- 2/18/2022 [Eggs & Issues-Burlington](#)
- 2/18/2022 [Legislative Forum-North Liberty](#)
- 2/18/2022 [Education Forum-Iowa City](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Legislative Forum-Jefferson County](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Eggs & Issues-Spencer](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Town Hall-Janesville](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Legislative Forum-Carroll](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Legislative Forum-Storm Lake](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Legislative Forum-Newton](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Legislative Forum-Cedar Rapids](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Legislative Coffee-Waukee](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Legislative Coffee-Harlan](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Legislative Forum-Scott County](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Town Hall-Tripoli](#)
- 2/19/2022 [Legislative Forum-Okoboji](#)
- 2/21/2022 [Town Meeting-Sac City](#)
- 2/22/2022 [Town Meeting-Jefferson](#)

- 2/23/2022 [Town Meeting-Audubon](#)
- 2/24/2022 [Town Meeting-Albia](#)

### In The News

- [Quad-Cities lawmakers address workforce shortages during chamber forum](#)
- [WOI-TV: Iowans weigh in on House Republicans' tax proposal during public hearing](#)
- [Iowa House passes a four percent flat tax](#)
- [Hall announces he will not run for re-election in Iowa House District 1](#)
- [Ken Rozenboom announces re-election bid in newly created Senate seat](#)
- [Reynolds joins letter asking Biden, Trudeau to reinstate vaccine, quarantine exemptions](#)
- [Iowa Senate panel advances bill expanding maternal support programs](#)

### Senate Schedule Week 7, February 21 - 25, 2022

#### IOWA SENATE - Schedule for Week 7, February 21-25, 2022

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

Monday, February 21	Tuesday, February 22	Wednesday, February 23	Thursday, February 24	Friday, February 25
	9:00 SESSION	9:00 SESSION	9:00 SESSION	
			9:30 State Govt. RM 116	
Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon
1:00 SESSION		1:00 Ways and Means RM 116		All committees on call

Prepared in the Office of Senate Majority Leader Jack Whitver  
Last updated on February 17, 2022

### House Schedule Week 7, February 21 - 28, 2022

**House of Representatives Schedule for *Week 7, February 21 - 25, 2022***  
**Prepared in the Office of House Speaker Pat Grassley**

Monday, February 21	Tuesday, February 22	Wednesday, February 23	Thursday, February 24	Friday, February 25
	<b>7:30 Subcommittee Block</b>  <b>8:30 SESSION</b>  <b>9:00 Budget Subs</b> Justice Systems Rm 19 Admin/Reg Rm 304  <b>10:00 Ways and Means</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Appropriations</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	<b>7:30 Subcommittee Block</b>  <b>8:30 SESSION</b>  <b>9:00 Budget Subs</b> Justice Systems Rm 19 Admin/Reg Rm 304	<b>7:30 Subcommittee Block</b>  <b>8:30 SESSION</b>  <b>9:30 Judiciary</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  <b>10:30 Ways and Means</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Appropriations</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	
<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>
<b>12:00 Subcommittee Block</b>  <b>1:00 SESSION</b>	<b>12:00 SESSION</b>  <b>5:00 Subcommittee Block</b>	<b>12:00 SESSION</b>  <b>5:00 Subcommittee Block</b>	<b>12:30 Government Oversight</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	

The Legislative Information Office provides a complete list of committee meetings on the web at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov>  
 \*\*\*Subject to Change\*\*\*

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

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

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**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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