



# iowa legislative news service

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## AROUND THE CAPITOL

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The Iowa Supreme Court overruled the district court in sustaining objections to three signatures on the nominating petitions for Abby Finkenauer and ruled that she remain on the ballot for the Democratic nomination for the US Senate. Five justices joined the opinion, with two others concurring in the result. The signatures had been challenged for failing to meet the date requirements for petition signatures, and without the signatures, the Finkenauer nominating petitions would not meet the requirements for being placed on the June primary ballot.

The Court found problems in the positions of the two objectors, Kim Schmett and Leann Pellet and in responses from the State Objection Panel and the Finkenauer campaign ("Neither side's position is without flaws") but ruled that the controlling statutes do not provide grounds for disqualifying the three signatures. In a per curiam opinion, the Court wrote: "Statutory interpretation is not like proving math theorems, and it is sometimes difficult to come up with a neat answer that is intellectually satisfying. In the end, we believe we must be guided by the legislature's last word on the subject."

The Court noted that the Legislature approved [SF 568 ELECTION LAW CHANGES](#) last session and wrote, "We therefore believe it is reasonable to treat this language as determinative of the legislature's views as to when an objection to a signature based on incorrect or incomplete information should be sustained. Otherwise, there would have been no reason to include it in [SF 568](#). And, as we have already noted, there is no reference to missing or incorrect dates in section 43.14." Legislators approved the bill on party-line votes (53-34 in the House and 29-17 in the Senate) on May 19, 2021, before the adjournment of the session.

In another election lawsuit, in the US district court for southern Iowa, Chief US Magistrate Judge Helen Adams granted a motion for summary judgement to Jake Porter and the Iowa Libertarian Party. Adams ruled that the legislation approved in 2019 moving up deadlines for nominations for the general election ballot to March for third parties and independents, while maintaining an August deadline for some other filings, placed a substantial burden on third parties and independents without advancing the interests of the State. The court ruled that the factual record was devoid of any support that maintaining an August filing deadline for all candidates would impede the state's ability to administer elections. The court ordered the parties to file briefs on potential injunctive relief by April 20 and will issue a supplemental ruling after those filings. Legislators amended and approved [HF 692](#) to move up filing deadlines at the end of the 2019 session.

## APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

**AS OF FRIDAY APRIL 15, 2022**

<a href="#"><u>HF 2560</u></a>	AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES	Amended & Passed <b>House</b> 3.23	In <b>Senate</b> Subcommittee 3.29			
<a href="#"><u>HF 2565</u></a>	ADMINISTRATION & REGULATION	Amended & Passed <b>House</b> 3.24	In <b>Senate</b> Subcommittee 3.29			
<a href="#"><u>HF 2564</u></a>	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Amended & Passed <b>House</b> 3.24	In <b>Senate</b> Subcommittee 3.29			
<a href="#"><u>HF 2578</u></a>	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	Passed <b>House</b> Committee 3.24	Amended & Passed <b>House</b> 4.5			
<a href="#"><u>HF 2575</u></a>	EDUCATION	Amended & Passed <b>House</b> 3.29	In <b>Senate</b> Subcommittee 3.31			
<a href="#"><u>HF 2558</u></a>	JUDICIAL BRANCH	Amended & Passed <b>House</b> 3.22	In <b>Senate</b> Subcommittee 3.24			
<a href="#"><u>HF 2559</u></a>	JUSTICE SYSTEMS	Amended & Passed <b>House</b> 3.22	In <b>Senate</b> Subcommittee 3.24			
<a href="#"><u>HF 2579</u></a>	REBUILD IOWA INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (RIIF)	Passed <b>House</b> Approps Committee 3.29	Amended & Passed <b>House</b> 4.5			
<a href="#"><u>HF 2557</u></a>	TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE & CAPITALS	Amended & Passed <b>House</b> 3.22	In <b>Senate</b> Subcommittee 3.24			

## FOR MONDAY

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Legislators return to Des Moines on Monday afternoon but have not scheduled any work for Monday as of yet. We will publish on Monday and will continue to publish on session days. The remaining length of the session is unknown; the House and Senate need to reach agreements in several areas and are likely to need several days of floor work to pass the remaining legislation needed to bring the session to a close.

## FISCAL IMPACTS

### **SF 581 DEER REIMBURSEMENT**

Strikes the current reimbursement for illegally taking an antlerless deer (\$1,500) and reduces the reimbursement to \$500. Retroactive to July 2020 and allows persons who have paid the higher price to get the difference refunded. **Permits:** Lowers the fee for deer depredation permits to \$2. Requires DNR to allow the permits to be filled September to December and allows the DNR to authorize other months.

**Season:** Requires the NRC to set a January Antlerless deer season in a county that has unsold licenses. Allows the use of guns using centerfire ammunition. **Study:** Requires the DNR to study the population of deer in each county and the impact on crops, on the number of deer-car collisions and other matters every three years. Requires the DNR to work with the Insurance Division, the DOT and ISU. Pays for the study from the Fish & Wildlife Fund.

**S 5121 by the House - Stamps:** Adds the trout stamp to the Lifetime Hunting/Fishing licenses for disabled vets. Increases the reimbursement to \$750. Increases the deer depredation fee to \$5. Allows the use of bows, shotguns, handguns and muzzleloaders during the January season. Makes corrections to the deer population study and updates the bill. **Non-ambulatory Hunters:** Allows a non-ambulatory resident hunter to use shotguns, muzzleloaders or straight wall cartridge rifles during any deer season. Increases the number of deer licenses for non-residents hunting through a non-profit that helps disabled veterans to hunt to 50.

The House and Senate have passed the bill in different forms. The LSA estimates that the bill will reduce revenues to the Fish and Wildlife fund by about \$30,000 annually, and that the study on deer populations will cost the fund \$150,000 every three years.

## TODAY IN THE LEGISLATURE

**House Files: none (last introduced HF 2584)**

**House Study Bills: none (last introduced HSB 729)**

**Senate Files: none (last introduced SF 2383)**

**Senate Study Bills: none (last introduced SSB 3159)**

## HOUSE & SENATE AGENDA

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022

1 PM	HOUSE CONVENES	<i>House Chamber</i>
	SENATE CONVENES	<i>Senate Chamber</i>

## SENATE DEBATE CALENDAR

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022

<a href="#"><u>SF 333</u></a>	<b>TR</b>	EMERGENCY VEHICLE USE (sim/comp to <a href="#"><u>HF 721</u></a> )	<i>Koelker</i>
<a href="#"><u>SF 2191</u></a>	<b>SG</b>	DISASTER FUNDS (sim/comp to attached <a href="#"><u>HF 2515</u></a> )	<i>Cournoyer</i>
<a href="#"><u>SF 2192</u></a>	<b>SG</b>	DISASTER PROTECTIONS (sim/comp to attached <a href="#"><u>HF 2295</u></a> )	<i>Cournoyer</i>
<a href="#"><u>SF 2324</u></a>	<b>SG</b>	REAL ESTATE TEAMS	<i>R Smith</i>
<a href="#"><u>SF 2376</u></a>	<b>WM</b>	ALL SYSTEMS WEIGHT PERMITS	<i>Brown</i>
<a href="#"><u>HF 2198</u></a>	<b>HR</b>	CHILDCARE WORKING AGE	<i>Johnson</i>