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AROUND THE CAPITOL

Both the House and Senate debated bills on the floor on Wednesday afternoon, with both chambers approving an amended version of [HF 161 NON-ECONOMIC DAMAGES](#). The Senate approved four other bills before adjourning, including [SF 171 JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSIONS](#) on a 34-15 vote. Democrats said that the bill gives the Governor too much control over the process for nominating district judges. The House Ways & Means Committee approved [SF 181 RESIDENTIAL VALUATIONS/TAX MATTERS](#) on a 19-6 vote. Opponents of the bill said that local governments have already based their budgets on the higher numbers and will need to cut services without state supplemental assistance.

The House and the Senate spent much of the day debating [HF 161 NON-ECONOMIC DAMAGES](#). The House delayed debate yesterday, but brought the bill to the floor today, with new amendments from Representative Ann Meyer. The amendments increased the cap against hospitals to \$2 million and established a task force to look at medical errors. Representative Meyer said that the bill is needed to keep doctors in Iowa. She said that high medical malpractice premiums are leading Iowa doctors and medical students to leave the state. Senator Schultz, who managed the bill in the Senate, said he preferred the lower cap but said that the cap is about “putting up guardrails” on jury verdicts. He said that juries can be unduly influenced into making large awards by out-state lawyers. Opponents of the caps said that the bill lacks measures to assure that the caps will reduce medical malpractice rates instead of hurting families that have children or spouses severely injured by medical malpractice. Senator Wahls said low reimbursement rates are the real problem for the difficulties rural areas have in keeping hospitals open. Representative Cisneros, who voted against the bill, said that the bill is against the “moral compass” of Republicans because it undervalues life.

The House passed the bill 54-46, with 11 Republicans (Andrews, Cisneros, Dieken, Gerhold, Hayes, Jones, Lohse, Osmundson, Sherman, Shipley, Stoltenberg) voting with Democrats against the bill. Representative Croken voted with Republicans for the bill. The Senate approved the bill on a 29-20 vote, with Senators Alons, Lofgren, Salmon, J Taylor and Westrich voting with Democrats against the bill.

Governor Reynolds, who called for a cap on non-economic damages in her Condition of the State speech, said “I’m grateful to the Legislature for passing reasonable medical malpractice reform, allowing Iowa’s health care industry to become stronger and more accessible. To the OBGYNs and physicians who have been worried about practicing in Iowa, we are ready for you! These reforms balance the needs of injured patients with the needs of all Iowans to have a robust health care system.”

TODAY IN THE LEGISLATURE

Bills to the Governor: (1)

Bills to the House: (4)

House Files: 15 (HF 228 - HF 243)

House Study Bills: 3 (HSB 150 - HSB 152)

Resolutions INTRODUCED in the House: (4)

[HCR 7](#) LOBBYIST RULES (Ethics; Successor to [HSB 78](#)) FM: *Stone*

Adopts the joint rules for lobbyists for the 90th General Assembly.

[HJR 4](#) FEDERAL AMENDMENTS (Wills, 4 R's) (State Government)

Proposes a resolution for an Article V convention to propose amendments to the US Constitution for term limits and to impose fiscal restraints and jurisdictional limits on the federal government.

See [SJR 1](#), [SJR 2](#), [SJR 5](#)

[HJR 5](#) MEDICAL TREATMENT AMENDMENT (Shipley) (Judiciary)

Proposes a constitutional amendment to allow Iowans to refuse any medical treatment or vaccine.

[HR 7](#) ETHICS RULES (Ethics; Successor to [HSB 77](#)) FM: *Osmundson*

Adopts the ethics rules for the House for the 90th General Assembly.

WITHDRAWN: [HF 102](#), [SF 148](#)

Senate Files: 24 (SF 230 - SF 253)

Senate Study Bills: 5 (SSB 1140 - SSB 1144)

JOINT FLOOR ACTION

Bills to the Governor: (1)

HF 161 NON-ECONOMIC DAMAGES

Caps non-economic damages against health care providers with a soft cap at \$250,000, and a cap of \$1 million for substantial or permanent loss of bodily function, substantial disfigurement or death. Deems losses related to dependent care to be economic damage. **Caps:** Increases the damage caps currently in law and in the bill by 2.1% annually after 2028. Requires the Insurance Commissioner to update the caps annually.

Amendments to HF 161

H 1002 by **Jones & Lohse** - *Strike & Replace*: Increases damage caps to \$5 million.

H 1017 to H 1002 by **Jones & Lohse** - *Strike & Replace*: Increases damage caps to \$5 million. Excludes the loss of an unborn, viable baby from non-economic damages. **ADOPTED**

H 1002 as amended, **Jones & Lohse** - **FAILED**, 75-24

H 1007 by **Matson** - *Strike & Replace*

H 1013 to H 1007 by **Matson** - *Strike & Replace*: Limits the ability of an insurer to raise premiums if the defendant asked for a settlement less than the policy limits and the provider agreed but the insurer refused the settlement. Adopts a \$5 million cap with a 2.1% annual increase.

H 1007 as amended by **Matson** - **RULED NOT GERMANE**; **MTSR FAILED** 61-38

H 1014 by **A Meyer** - *Strike & Replace*

H 1015 to H 1014 by **A Meyer** - *Strike & Replace*: Re-enacts the bill but allows \$2 million in damages if a hospital is a party and allows all the damage payment to a plaintiff if the claim is against a licensed medical provider. Includes loss of pregnancy in the circumstances allowing higher damages. Establishes a medical error task force. **ADOPTED**

H 1014 as amended by **A Meyer** - **RULED NOT GERMANE**; **MTSR ADOPTED** 58-41

H 1014 as amended by **A Meyer** - **PASSED**, 53-45

H 1003, H 1004 - **WITHDRAWN**

The **House PASSED** the bill as amended 54-46

SF 148 NON-ECONOMIC DAMAGES

S 3015 by **Schultz** - Conforms to HF 161

Amendments to S 3015

S 3016 by **Lofgren** - Requires the doctor to inform the patient how many times the doctor has performed the surgery and other background information. **FAILED** 31-18

S 3017 by **Lofgren** - Excludes cases from involving gross negligence from the caps. **FAILED** 29-20

S 3018 by **Lofgren** - Retains the lower cap but strikes the hard cap.

S 3019 by **Boulton**, **11 D's** - Prohibits medical malpractice premiums from increasing before 2028 and limits increases after to 2.1% **FAILED** 33-16

S 3020 by **Boulton**, **11 D's** - Includes loss of pregnancy and gross negligence as conditions which trigger the higher damage cap. **FAILED** 32-17

S 3021 by **Wahls**, **11 D's** - Requires insurance companies to negotiate in good faith and to negotiate within the policy limits. Establishes a cause of action for a doctor against an insurer for failing to do so.

FAILED 32-17

S 3004, S 3005, S 3006, S 3014 - **OUT-OF-ORDER**

S 3015 by **Schultz** - Conforms to HF 161 - **ADOPTED**

The **Senate PASSED** the bill 29-20; it now GOES to the **Governor**

SENATE FLOOR ACTION

Bills to the House: (4)

[SF 135](#) INTERIOR DESIGN

Changes interior design to registered interior design and specifies certain covered practices. Makes conforming changes. Exempts work in non-commercial settings and work done under the supervision of a registered practitioner from registration provisions. Requires that registered interior designers have a seal and allows the use of the seal on submissions which include interior design practices that the designer is competent to perform. Prohibits the use of the seal for technical submissions not prepared by the designer. Requires a registered interior designer to avoid conflicts and includes procedures if a conflict cannot be avoided. Allows designers to make technical submissions for projects and deems those submissions to be public records. Requires local governments to accept sealed submissions.

The **Senate PASSED** the bill 49-0; it now GOES to the **House**

[SF 157](#) DRIVING TESTS

Allows persons who are qualified to give behind-the-wheel driving instruction but who are not licensed teachers to administer a final field driving test.

The **Senate PASSED** the bill 49-0; it now GOES to the **House**

[SF 171](#) JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSIONS

Allows the Governor to name six members of a district judicial nominating commission. Removes the chief judge of the district from the commission and requires the members of the commission to select a chair for the commission.

[S 3022](#) by [Boulton](#) - Requires political balance for the appointments between Republican, Democrats and Independents. **FAILED** 33-16

The **Senate PASSED** the bill 34-15; it now GOES to the **House**

[SF 193](#) TRANSPORTING BODIES

Requires the Board of Mortuary Science to adopt rules to allow a funeral director to designate a person as a removal specialist who can transport a dead body without the director being present. Requires the board to consider any needed training and registration.

The **Senate PASSED** the bill 48-1; it now GOES to the **House**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION

House Public Safety Committee: Voted Out (1)

[HF 78](#) MEDICAL JAIL COSTS

Requires courts to approve reimbursement costs for jail and medical services for prisoners regardless of the ability of the person to pay such costs. **PASSED** 13-8; *FM: H Wilz*

House Transportation Committee: Voted Out (2)

[HSB 28](#) CDL THIRD PARTY TESTERS

Strikes the current list of third-party CDL testers and authorizes the DOT to adopt rules restricting the scope of third-party testers. **PASSED** 19-1; *FM: Sorenson*

[HSB 92](#) CDL CLEARINGHOUSE

Aligns state laws on CDLs and the drug and alcohol clearinghouse with federal regulations related to enforcement, checking the clearinghouse and other matters. **PASSED** 20-0; *FM: Dunwell*

House Veterans Affairs Committee: Voted Out (1)

[HSB 103](#) VETERAN PROGRAMS

Defines veteran to meet federal definitions. Strikes certain CE requirements for county commissioners. Allows the DVA to receive donations and gifts to be used for training county commissioners and others. Strikes certain duties to train/certify and requires the DVA to verify that various officers are qualified. Includes other certification/CE requirements. Prohibits using money from the Veterans Trust for cemetery development grants. Requires the county where a veteran lived to pay for the funeral expenses of a veteran, spouse or child, if the veteran died without means to pay such expenses. **PASSED** 17-0; *FM: Andrews*

House Ways & Means Committee: Voted Out (3)

[SF 181](#) RESIDENTIAL VALUATIONS/TAX MATTERS

Excludes various properties (mobile/manufactured home parks and communities, assisted living facilities and portions of commercial properties including room for three or more dwelling units) from assessment limitations related to residential and agricultural property. Includes implementing provisions for the DOR certifying various information to auditors and for auditors to make revisions. Extends budget certification deadlines to April 30. **Childcare Credit:** Specifies that the employer childcare credit can be used against the individual or corporate income tax, franchise/money and credits tax and insurance premiums tax.

Withholding: Specifies that withholding is not required for retirement income that is not taxed. **PASSED** 19-6; *FM: Kaufmann*

[HSB 60](#) AMUSEMENT DEVICE EXEMPTION

Establishes a sales tax exemption for amusement devices to the extent that the sales price is paid out in prizes. **PASSED** 23-2; *FM: Lundgren*

[HSB 80](#) MIDWIFE LICENSING

Establishes provisions for midwife licensing. Requires a license by July 2024. Includes exemptions for the Amish and Mennonites, Native American tribes and certain other persons. Requires an applicant to be 21 and to have completed certain training. Prohibits unlicensed persons from using the term licensed midwife. Limits the liability of a health care provider who accepts a transfer of a patient from a midwife. Establishes a board. **PASSED** 24-1; *FM: Kaufmann*

SENATE COMMITTEE ACTION

Senate Education Committee: Voted Out (8)

[SF 9 SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL AID](#) (now [SF 247](#))

Allows the School Budget Review Committee to approve supplemental aid to schools if 35% of the students in the district are open enrolled. Excludes on-line open enrollment. Includes other requirements. **PASSED** 16-0; FM: *Zaun*

[SF 12 SCHOOL BUDGET](#) (now [SF 251](#))

Limits the administration costs for schools to 5%. **AMENDED & PASSED** 16-0; FM: *Zaun*

[SF 39 TECHNOLOGY IMPACT STUDY](#) (now [SF 248](#))

Requires the DOE and the DHS to convene a work group to study impact of technology on students. Requires a report and recommendations by December 2023. **PASSED** 16-0; FM: *J Taylor*

[SF 53 DROP-OUT FUNDING](#) (now [SF 246](#))

Phases in an increase for the amount of the supplemental funding for schools to use for drop-out prevention programs to 5% by 2027. Effective on enactment. **PASSED** 16-0; FM: *Cournoyer*

[SF 58 UNIVERSITY PREGNANCY ACCOMMODATIONS](#) (now [SF 252](#))

Requires the state universities and community colleges, including employees and faculty, to make reasonable accommodations to students who are pregnant or who have recently given birth. Defines reasonable accommodations and give examples. Requires the AG to maintain a system for receiving and investigating complaints and requires founded complaints to be forwarded to the US DOE. Includes additional requirements. **AMENDED & PASSED** 16-0; FM: *J Taylor*

[SSB 1023 COMPUTER GRANTS](#) (now [SF 250](#))

Allows recipients of computer science professional development grants to use the money in the fiscal year of the grant through to September 30. Effective on enactment. **PASSED** 16-0; FM: *Cournoyer*

[SSB 1024 MH PRACTITIONER LOAN REPAYMENTS](#) (now [SF 253](#))

Requires the CSC to make loan repayments for MH practitioners using the MH loan repayment program at the end of each year. Prohibits the CSC from making further payments for a MH practitioner who fails to fulfill service obligations. Establishes proportional payments for part-time practitioners. Effective for loan repayments on enactment. **AMENDED & PASSED** 16-0; FM: *J Taylor*

[SSB 1025 RURAL PHYSICIAN LOAN REPAYMENTS](#) (now [SF 249](#))

Requires the CSC to make loan repayments for doctors using the rural primary care loan repayment program at the end of each year. Prohibits the CSC from making further payments for a doctor who fails to fulfill service obligations. Effective for repayments on enactment. **PASSED** 16-0; FM: *J Taylor*

Senate Technology Committee: Voted Out (1)

[SSB 1071 PERSONAL DATA](#)

Establishes personal data rights for Iowa consumers. Requires companies meeting certain size requirements to respond to data requests within specified timelines and restricts the use of some personal data. Includes other rights and responsibilities on personal data. Makes definitions. **AMENDED & PASSED** 12-0; FM: *Cournoyer*

HOUSE & SENATE AGENDA

| THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023 | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 7-9 AM | Iowa County Attorneys Association Legislative Reception | Legislative Dining Room 15 |
| 7 AM-2 PM | Career & Technical Education Day at the Capitol | Rotunda |
| 8:30 AM | HOUSE CONVENES | House Chamber |
| 9 AM | SENATE CONVENES | Senate Chamber |
| 10 AM | House Judiciary Committee HF 60 BIRTH CERTIFICATE INFORMATION: Lohse (C) HF 114 ADOPTIVE PARENTS: Lohse (C) HJR 2 HUNTING & FISHING AMENDMENT: Collins (C) | Room 103 |
| | House Labor & Workforce Committee | Room 102 |
| 11 AM | House Agriculture Committee HF 69 WATER QUALITY PROJECTS: Mommsen (C) HSB 113 DALs BILL: Hora (C) | Room 102 |
| | House Health & Human Services Committee HF 74 HOME & VEHICLE MODIFICATION SERVICES: Kniff McCulla (C) HSB 57 PSYCHIATRIC FELLOWSHIPS: A Meyer (C) HSB 76 BRAIN ILLNESS: Bradley (C) HSB 91 GOVERNOR HEALTH PROGRAMS: Wood (C) | Room 103 |
| | House Local Government Committee HF 87 LOCAL DISASTER LOANS: Nordman (C) HF 115 ASSESSOR CONDUCT: Dunwell (C) HF 116 COUNTY SUPERVISOR ELECTIONS: Deyoe (C) HSB 94 TAX PROTEST DEADLINES: Osmundson (C) HSB 95 COUNTY DRIVERS LICENSE FEES: Bloomingtondale (C) HSB 97 DELINQUENT TAX SALES: Deyoe (C) | Room 19 |
| | | |

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

| THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023 | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 8 AM | House Education Subcommittee HSB 138 ESA STATE TESTS: Bradley (C), Buck , Collins | House Lounge 2 |
| | House Health & Human Services Subcommittee HF 172 BABY FORMULA FOR WIC: Kniff McCulla (C), T Moore , Wessel-Kroeschell | House Lounge |
| | House State Government Subcommittee HSB 145 OPEN RECORD/MEETING COMPLAINTS: Golding (C), Bossman , Gjerde | Room 304.1 |

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS (CONTINUED)

| THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023 | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 8:10 AM | House State Government Subcommittee HSB 144 PUBLIC RECORD REQUESTS: Golding (C), Gjerde , Sexton | Room 304.1 |
| 8:15 AM | House Commerce Subcommittee HSB 135 VALUE ADDED INSURANCE SERVICES: Graber (C), Scholten , H Wilz | House Lounge |
| | House Health & Human Services Subcommittee HSB 129 CHILDCARE PHYSICALS II: Fry (C), Baeth , Boden | House Lounge 2 |
| 9:30 AM | House Health & Human Services Subcommittee HSB 133 TELEVISED COMMITMENT TESTIMONY: Lohse (C), Baeth , Kniff McCulla | House Lounge |
| | Senate Judiciary Subcommittee SSB 1069 FELONY RESTITUTION ORDERS: Zaun (C), Boulton , Evans | Room 315 |
| 10 AM | Senate Health & Human Services Subcommittee SSB 1139 SENATE HEALTH PROGRAMS II: Edler (C), Sweeney , Trone Garriott | Room 315 |
| 10:30 AM | Senate Education Subcommittee SF 179 FFA & 4-H ABSENCES: Rozenboom (C), Giddens , Gruenhagen | Room 315 |
| | Senate Transportation Subcommittee SF 184 TRAIN LENGTH: Shipley (C), T Taylor , Webster | Room 217 |
| 11 AM | Senate Education Subcommittee SF 29 OPEN ENROLLMENT TRANSPORTATION: Rozenboom (C), Celsi , Gruenhagen <i>(reassigned)</i> | Room 315 |
| | Senate Education Subcommittee SSB 1049 TEACHING PROGRAMS & INCENTIVES: Garrett (C), Evans , Quirnbach | Senate Lounge |
| | Senate State Government Subcommittee SF 98 PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN CHINA: Kraayenbrink (C), Bousselot , Jochum | Room 217 |
| | Senate Workforce Subcommittee SF 167 CHILD LABOR: Dickey (C), Dotzler , Schultz | Room 217 |
| 11:30 AM | Senate Judiciary Subcommittee SF 166 WITNESS TAMPERING: Reichman (C), Bisignano , Bousselot | Room 315 |
| NOON | House Judiciary Subcommittee HF 58 VACATING PARENTAL RIGHTS: Lohse (C), Jones , Srinivas | Room 304 |
| | House Judiciary Subcommittee HSB 140 JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS: A Meyer (C), C Thomson , Wilburn | Room 304.1 |
| | House Local Government Subcommittee HF 196 COMMENTS AT SCHOOL BOARDS: Gehlbach (C), Gaines , Henderson | House Lounge 2 |
| | Senate Education Subcommittee SF 159 GENDER IDENTITY EDUCATION: Salmon (C), Evans , Quirnbach | Room 315 |
| 12:15 PM | House Transportation Subcommittee HSB 27 RESTRICTED FARM CDLS: Wulf (C), Dunwell , Madison <i>(reassigned)</i> | House Lounge 2 |
| 12:30 PM | House Judiciary Subcommittee HF 59 ADOPTION INVESTIGATIONS COSTS: Lohse (C), Jones , Wessel-Kroeschell | Room 304 |

HOUSE DEBATE CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023

| | | | |
|------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| HF 159 | JU | ASSAULT DEFENSES | <i>Kaufmann</i> |
| HF 175 | NR | BLACK BEAR HUNTING | <i>Sherman</i> |
| HF 176 | JU | CONTINUOUS SEXUAL ABUSE (sim/comp to SF 229) | <i>C Thomson</i> |
| HF 177 | JU | PUBLIC EXPRESSION PROTECTIONS | <i>Holt</i> |
| HF 181 | ED | REGENT INVESTMENT IN CHINA | <i>Stone</i> |
| HF 183 | HH | PRESCRIBING PSYCHOLOGISTS (sim/comp to SF 133) | <i>H Wilz</i> |
| HF 185 | EG | INNOVATIVE BUTCHERY ELIGIBILITY | <i>Ingles</i> |
| HF 199 | TR | HYDRO EXCAVATION EXEMPTION (sim/comp to SF 154) | <i>Siegrist</i> |
| HF 200 | TR | SINGLE TRIP EXEMPTIONS (sim/comp to SF 153) | <i>Latham</i> |

HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <u>COMMERCE</u> | | |
| <u>HF 211</u> | BANNING CHINESE LAND PURCHASES | Best (C), Jacoby, Young |
| <u>HEALTH & HUMAN RESOURCES</u> | | |
| <u>HF 226</u> | EXPLAINING HEALTH CARE BENEFITS | Boden (C), Bergan, Brown-Powers |
| <u>STATE GOVERNMENT</u> | | |
| <u>HSB 144</u> | PUBLIC RECORD REQUESTS | Golding (C), Bossman, Gjerde (<i>reassigned</i>) |
| <u>TRANSPORTATION</u> | | |
| <u>HF 170</u> | LEFT TURNS | Meggers (C), Henderson, Madison |
| <u>HF 214</u> | BIKES IN CROSSWALKS | Gerhold (C), Kressig, C Thomson |
| <u>WAYS & MEANS</u> | | |
| <u>HF 157</u> | NURSE PRECEPTOR CREDIT | Siegrist (C), Best, Wilson |

SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>EDUCATION</u> | | |
| <u>SF 159</u> | GENDER IDENTITY EDUCATION | Salmon (C), Evans, Quirmbach |
| <u>HEALTH & HUMAN RESOURCES</u> | | |
| <u>SF 219</u> | TATTOO PERMIT REQUIREMENTS | Alons (C), Donahue, Evans |
| <u>JUDICIARY</u> | | |
| <u>SF 221</u> | POSSESSING IMAGES OF MINORS | J Taylor (C), Bisignano, Webster |
| <u>SF 223</u> | ASSAULTS ON PREGNANT WOMEN | ShIPLEY (C), De Witt, Petersen |
| <u>STATE GOVERNMENT</u> | | |
| <u>HF 138</u> | PROTECTION OCCUPATION WORKERS | Brown (C), Boulton, Westrich |
| <u>WAYS & MEANS</u> | | |
| <u>SF 227</u> | EXECUTIVE/EMPLOYMENT EXEMPTION | Rowley (C), Dawson, T Taylor |
| <u>HF 111</u> | TRANSFER TAX EXEMPTION | Sweeney (C), Cournoyer, Quirmbach |
| <u>WORKFORCE</u> | | |
| <u>SF 167</u> | CHILD LABOR | Dickey (C), Dotzler, Schultz |
| <u>SF 225</u> | ELECTRIC LINE WORKERS | Driscoll (C), Boulton, McClintock |
| <u>SF 226</u> | SEASONAL LAYOFFS | Driscoll (C), Dotzler, McClintock |

HOUSE FILES (HF 228 – HF 238)

[HF 228](#) **MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTAL ENROLLMENT** (**G Mohr** & **Kniff McCulla**) (HHS) (to Commerce)

Establishes an annual open enrollment period for Medicare supplemental policies for 30 days after an applicant's birthday. Does not allow insurers to restrict such policies based on an applicant's pre-existing conditions.

[HF 229](#) **RELIGIOUS COURT TESTS** (**Shiple**) (Judiciary)

Requires courts to use the compelling interest test when reviewing if a law unduly burdens the practice of religion by a person.

[HF 230](#) **4 LANE US 30** (**Determann**, **4 R's**, **1 D**) (Transportation)

Requires the Transportation Commission to prioritize making US 30 a four-lane divided road. See [SF 111](#)

[HF 231](#) **STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION** (**Determann**, **4 R's**, **1 D**) (Transportation)

Divides the state into seven regions for the State Transportation Commission and requires each region to have a member on the commission. Deems a seat vacated if the member moves. See [SF 11](#)

[HF 232](#) **PROBATE PROCEEDINGS** (**Judiciary**; Successor to [HSB 106](#)) *FM: Gustoff*

Makes changes to probate proceedings, including requests by fiduciaries, requiring executors to request certified copies of wills and on making tortious interference claims. Makes changes to guardianships for children. Assesses the cost of a trial transcript for an indigent defendant to the county. Makes changes to requests by trustees regarding property, including good faith protections and penalties for unreasonable actions of withholding property. Allows the agent of a protected person to establish a medical needs trust. See [SSB 1067](#)

[HF 233](#) **ESA ENROLLMENT INTENTION** (**Gehl** & **Rinker**) (Education)

Requires the DOE to develop an internet site where parents can declare their intention to use an ESA. Requires the DOE to notify schools about the number of children who will be using ESAs but not to identify the individual children.

[HF 234](#) **TEACHER SALARIES** (**Siegrist**) (Education)

Raises the minimum salary for teacher interns/initial license to \$33,000 and the minimum salary for other teachers \$40,000.

[HF 235](#) **NURSING HOME SEX OFFENDERS** (**Fry**) (Health & Human Services)

Requires the HHS to adopt a Medicaid reimbursement methodology for individuals in nursing facilities who are required to register as sex offenders.

[HF 236](#) **VITAMIN AWARENESS** (**Shiple**) (Health & Human Services)

Requires the HHS to develop an evidence-based vitamin and mineral sufficiency program. Includes specifics for the program, including the importance of Vitamin D in reducing deaths from COVID.

[HF 237](#) **WITNESS TAMPERING II** (**Shiple**) (Judiciary)

Increases the penalty for jury or witness tampering to a Class C felony. Similar to [SF 166](#).

[HF 238](#) **LIQUID CO2** (**Shiple**) (Judiciary)

Strikes the inclusion of liquid CO2 as a hazardous liquid regarding pipeline transport.

HOUSE FILES (HF 239 – HF 243)

[HF 239](#) **REASONABLE FORCE** ([Shipley](#)) (Judiciary)

Establishes a presumption that the use of reasonable force is justified. Does not allow an arrest unless law enforcement finds probable cause to arrest the person. Gives a party seeking to overcome the immunity in criminal and civil cases the burden of proof and sets a clear and convincing standard. Requires a hearing within 14 days of raising the defense. Requires a court to determine that a use of force was not justified in order to go to a criminal trial.

[HF 240](#) **PSILOCYBIN** ([Shipley](#)) (Public Safety)

Removes psilocybin and psilocyn as a Schedule I Controlled Substance.

[HF 241](#) **TRUANCY PROGRAMS** ([Gjerde](#)) (Education)

Establishes Truancy Reduction pilot programs in the DOE, in collaboration with social workers, for Linn County (county between 200,000 and 300,000), Bremer County (between 25,000 and 25,600) and two other small counties (16,600-16,700 and 17,100-17,400) to evaluate and address truancy. Appropriates \$300,000 for the programs. Repeals the programs as of July 2025.

[HF 242](#) **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME** ([Jones](#) & [Bossman](#)) (State Government)

Establishes year-round Daylight Savings time.

[HF 243](#) **AUTISM SPECTRUM COVERAGE** ([Commerce](#); Successor to [HSB 74](#)) *FM: [Lundgren](#)*

Strikes certain age and maximum benefit limits for autism spectrum coverage. See [SSB 1050](#)

HOUSE STUDY BILLS (HSB 150 – HSB 152)

[HSB 150](#) **BOILER INSPECTIONS** (Labor & Workforce) [Johnson](#) (C), [Buck](#), [Golding](#)

Requires that any boiler or pressure vessel be compliant with OSHA standards, that the owner show such compliance and that the vessel be included as process safety management process equipment to qualify for specific inspection schedules. Allows the owner to request that the internal inspection schedule be set for seven years and requires the Labor Commissioner to grant the request if the certain standards are met. Includes additional recordkeeping requirements for the longer schedule. See [SSB 1073](#)

[HSB 151](#) **STATE SOFTWARE AGREEMENTS** (Economic Growth & Technology) [Wood](#) (C), [T Moore](#), [Turek](#)

Prohibits a software licensing agreement from preventing a state agency from using additional software or hardware with their equipment.

[HSB 152](#) **DOG MATTERS** (State Government) [Bossman](#) (C), [Collins](#), [Gjerde](#)

Lowers the age for which dogs must be vaccinated against rabies or can be deemed property without a collar or rabies tag to four months. Adds restrictions to when a police officer can kill a dog. Allows the designated agent of a health board or of law enforcement to impound a dog. **Breeds:** Prohibits counties and cities from adopting ordinances on a specific dog breed or the physical characteristics of a dog. See [SF 234](#). Last provision similar to [HSB 99](#) and [HF 191](#).

SENATE FILES (SF 230 – SF 233)

SF 230 SECOND ELUDING OFFENSE (**Judiciary**; Successor to [SSB 1068](#)) *FM: Garrett*

Expands the circumstances when an eluding offense can be considered a second or subsequent offense and increases the penalties.

SF 231 CIVIL SERVICE DISCIPLINE (**Cournoyer**) (Local Government)

Strikes the current language regarding disciplining local government civil service employees. Enacts new language that a civil service employee cannot be unreasonably or unjustly subjected to disciplinary action but can be disciplined on a finding based on the preponderance of the evidence that the employee violated clearly established policies. Allows an appointing authority to peremptorily impose discipline based on reasonable grounds that the failure of an employee to act is in violation of law or clearly established policies, or is an immediate detriment to the public. **Appeals:** Gives cities the burden of proof to establish the charges and to show that the punishment is proportionate. Prohibits knowingly withholding evidence from an employee. Authorizes a Civil Service Commission to deliberate in closed session on the request of an employee. Requires the Commission to reverse the city decision, with prejudice, if the city fails to meet the burden of proof and to determine if a disciplinary action is reasonable. Allows the Commission to act on a majority vote, except for removals requiring a unanimous vote. Includes other provisions. **Courts:** Makes court review de novo and allows for the award of attorney fees and costs.

SF 232 HUMAN TRAFFICKING & SOCIAL MEDIA (**Salmon**) (Judiciary)

Makes the owner of a social media site used for the purpose of human trafficking guilty of a Class D felony. Makes it a serious misdemeanor for the owner to not cooperate with an investigation. Gives victims, or a parent or guardian, a cause of action against a social media application or internet site that violates laws against human trafficking.

SF 233 CRIMINAL MATTERS (**Dawson**) (Judiciary)

Confidential Information: Defines exculpatory evidence that can be released despite confidentiality protections as only information negating guilt and not information that is only impeaching or cumulative. **No-Contact:** Requires a court to extend certain no-contact orders issued due to stalking, harassment and abuse crimes at the end of the five-year period for another five years unless the defendant files with the court to show that the defendant is no longer a threat. **SOL:** Allows actions to be brought at any time for offenses involving the continuous sexual abuse of a child or kidnapping or burglary offenses involving sex acts. **Sex Predator:** Adds as a sexually predatory offense crimes involving attempts to entice a minor under 16 to have sex. **Victims:** Requires sheriffs to prepare victim rights pamphlets to give to victims of delinquent offenses/public offenses by minors. Establishes a presumption that statements made by children 14 and older to forensic examiners and child advocacy centers are reliable and should be admitted into evidence. Includes grounds for admitting or challenging such statements. Requires the unreliability of the statement be proven by clear and convincing evidence. **Discovery:** Limits discovery in criminal cases to a showing of exceptional circumstances. Sets timelines for a defendant to submit witness lists. Limits discovery in post-conviction relief. **Pleas:** Allows discretionary review of a guilty plea if the court abused its discretion but not in plea agreements, mandatory sentences or if the sentence follows the recommendation of the defendant. **Bail:** Requires the court to give significant consideration to the danger posed by a defendant in Class A/forcible felonies before setting bond amounts. Establishes minimum bonds ranging from \$5,000 for a Class D forcible felony to \$500,000 for a Class A felony. Requires bonds to be cash or sufficient surety.

SENATE FILES (SF 234 – SF 244)

SF 234 DOG MATTERS (Cournoyer) (State Government) Cournoyer (C), Driscoll, Weiner

Lowers the age for which dogs must be vaccinated against rabies or can be deemed property without a collar or rabies tag to four months. Adds restrictions to when a police officer can kill a dog. Allows the designated agent of a health board or of law enforcement to impound a dog. **Breeds:** Prohibits counties and cities from adopting ordinances on a specific dog breed or the physical characteristics of a dog. See [HSB 152](#). Last provision similar to [HSB 99](#) and [HF 191](#).

SF 235 MINIMUM WAGE INCREASES (Donahue) (Workforce) Driscoll (C), Donahue, Kraayenbrink

Increases the minimum wage to \$15 as of July 2023. Increases the 90-day training wage to \$14.10. Indexes future increases by the SS COLA annually but does not allow wages to be decreased.

SF 236 VETERAN PROGRAMS (Salmon) (Veterans Affairs)

Defines veteran to meet federal definitions. Strikes certain CE requirements for county commissioners. Allows the DVA to receive donations and gifts to be used for training county commissioners and others. Strikes certain duties to train/certify and requires the DVA to verify that various officers are qualified. Includes other certification/CE requirements Prohibits using money from the Veterans Trust for cemetery development grants. Requires the county where a veteran lived to pay for the funeral expenses of a veteran, spouse or child, if the veteran died without means to pay such expenses. See [HSB 103](#)

SF 237 HEAVY VEHICLES & WARNING LIGHTS (Zumbach) (Transportation)

Deems that vehicles over 80,000 pounds do not have to have extra warning lights due to the weight of the vehicle.

SF 238 BABY DEATH FORMS (Guth) (Health & Human Services)

Requires that a ME investigation form for 0-3 to include a request for the vaccination record of the decedent for the prior six months. Similar to [SF 99](#).

SF 239 BOMBS & EXPLOSIVES (Judiciary; Successor to [SSB 1082](#)) FM: Bousset

Makes it a serious misdemeanor to use fire, destructive devices or explosives recklessly to endanger property or safety. Defines detonators, explosive material, blasting agents and destructive devices. See [HF 202](#)

SF 240 SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT (Schultz) (Health & Human Services)

Directs the DHHS to adopt Medicaid 1915(b)(3) services reimbursement rates for providers who offer substance abuse and outpatient treatment meeting those guidelines. Requires the HHS to adopt timelines, review plans and other matters to implement the program. See [HF 20](#)

SF 241 CLOSE CLEARANCE WARNING DEVICES (Shipley) (Transportation)

Requires train warning devices to be placed a reasonable distance from close clearance areas.

SF 242 CROSSING REPAIRS (Shipley) (Transportation)

Reduces the number of days that a RR can close an RR crossing for repairs to 20 days.

SF 243 TRAIN CREW SIZES (Shipley) (Transportation)

Requires a Class I or Class II train to have two crew members while in operation.

SF 244 PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE COMPACT (Zaun) (Health & Human Services)

Creates an interstate compact to allow out-of-state psychologists to practice telemedicine with Iowa patients, to allow in-person practice in Iowa on a temporary basis and to allow Iowa psychologists to practice telemedicine with out-of-state patients. Effective when seven states have adopted the compact. See [HF 24](#)

SENATE FILES (SF 245 – SF 253)

SF 245 POSITIVE TRAIN CONTROL (**Shipley**) (Transportation)

Requires that every Class I and Class II RR ensure that every train is equipped with and uses a positive train control system.

SF 246 DROP-OUT FUNDING (**Education**; Successor to [SF 53](#)) *FM: Cournoyer*

Phases in an increase for the amount of the supplemental funding for schools to use for drop-out prevention programs to 5% by 2027. Effective on enactment.

SF 247 SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL AID (**Education**; Successor to [SF 9](#)) *FM: Zaun*

Allows the School Budget Review Committee to approve supplemental aid to schools if 35% of the students in the district are open enrolled. Excludes on-line open enrollment. Includes other requirements.

SF 248 TECHNOLOGY IMPACT STUDY (**Education**; Successor to [SF 39](#)) *FM: J Taylor*

Requires the DOE and the DHS to convene a work group to study impact of technology on students. Requires a report and recommendations by December 2023.

SF 249 RURAL PHYSICIAN LOAN REPAYMENTS (**Education**; Successor to [SSB 1025](#)) *FM: J Taylor*

Requires the CSC to make loan repayments for doctors using the rural primary care loan repayment program at the end of each year. Prohibits the CSC from making further payments for a doctor who fails to fulfill service obligations. Effective for repayments on enactment.

SF 250 COMPUTER GRANTS (**Education**; Successor to [SSB 1023](#)) *FM: Cournoyer*

Allows recipients of computer science professional development grants to use the money in the fiscal year of the grant through to September 30. Effective on enactment.

SF 251 SCHOOL BUDGET (**Education**; Successor to [SF 12](#)) *FM: Zaun*

Limits the administration costs for schools to 5% of the budget. Defines administrative costs.

SF 252 UNIVERSITY PREGNANCY ACCOMMODATIONS (**Education**; Successor to [SF 58](#)) *FM: J Taylor*

Requires the state universities and community colleges, including employees and faculty, to make reasonable accommodations to students who are pregnant or who have recently given birth. Defines reasonable accommodations and give examples. Requires the AG to maintain a system for receiving and investigating complaints and requires founded complaints to be forwarded to the US DOE. Includes additional requirements.

SF 253 MH PRACTITIONER LOAN REPAYMENTS (**Education**; Successor to [SSB 1024](#)) *FM: J Taylor*

Requires the CSC to make loan repayments for MH practitioners using the MH loan repayment program at the end of each year. Prohibits the CSC from making further payments for a MH practitioner who fails to fulfill service obligations. Establishes provisions for proportional payments for part-time practitioners. Effective for loan repayments on enactment.

SENATE STUDY BILLS (SSB 1140 – SSB 1144)

[SSB 1140](#) **UE BENEFITS** (Workforce) **Dickey** (C) **Schultz, T Taylor**

Strikes varying the UE maximum benefit according to the number of dependents. Sets the UE benefit for workers with dependents at 1/22 of the highest quarterly salary and caps it at 57% of the state weekly wage. **Searches:** Adds requirements for work searches, including basing the number of required searches on the number of jobs, not allowing repeated work searches, and other requirements. Requires the DWD to develop list of jobs for applicants and to adopt rules on work searches. Strikes allowing work search requirements to be waived by rule. **Other:** Changes appeals times and allows some protests to be electronic. Requires state agencies in written statements to note the non-participating workforce. Defines the non-participating workforce. Effective 1/24.

[SSB 1141](#) **PRIVATE DRUG TESTING** (Workforce) **Dickey** (C), **Donahue, McClintock**

Allows employers to designate which positions are safety-sensitive positions. Allows various communications to be done through e-mail. Deems employers subject to civil remedies for certain violations. Requires that any attorney fees awarded to an employee be reasonable and gives the employee the burden of proof to do so. Strikes the requirement that the employer have the burden of proof in establishing that a request for a drug test met Code requirements.

[SSB 1142](#) **PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE** (Health & Human Services) **Schultz** (C), **Boulton, Busselot**

Strikes requirements for PAs to practice under the supervision of a doctor and requirements for the PA Board and BOM to submit reports on collaborative efforts. Similar to [HSB 115](#).

[SSB 1143](#) **SUNSETTING BOARDS** (State Government) **Koelker** (C), **Celsi, Cournoyer**

Requires all legislation that establishes a board to include a date to sunset the board in five years. Requires very executive order to include a one-year sunset for any governmental entity created.

[SSB 1144](#) **INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE** (Judiciary) **Shipley** (C), **Knox, Reichmann**

Proposes a constitutional amendment to eliminate involuntary servitude as a punishment for crime.