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AROUND THE CAPITOL

The House and Senate both met for short gavel-in, gavel-out sessions this morning. Most legislators left Des Moines on Thursday before the snowfall in Iowa became too severe. The House read in bills before adjourning, and several new study bills were introduced into the Senate.

The Senate met today because neither chamber will meet on Monday, the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The House and Senate will return to action on Tuesday morning at 10 AM. We will not publish a *Bulletin* on Monday, and will not publish again until Tuesday night.

Governor Reynolds missed the Condition of the Guard speech and cancelled events scheduled for Friday due to a non-Covid illness. Her office said that Governor Reynolds tested negative for COVID, and she has received her initial vaccination and booster shots for COVID.

The House and Senate should start on subcommittee and committee work next week. As this an election year, per diem payments for the session end after 100 days (April 19th). Bills from last year are still eligible for action, but many of those bills that passed out of committee in 2021 have been returned to committee. The deadline for legislators to request bills is next Friday, and the first funnel deadline is only five weeks away (February 18th).

Democratic leaders held a press conference on Thursday and said that they are disappointed with the course of the session. Representative Konfrst said Republicans have failed to recognize the victims of COVID pandemic. She said they have not addressed the housing challenge that is part of the workforce crisis and said the corporate tax cuts and income tax changes proposed by Governor Reynolds favor the wealthy. Senator Wahls said that Republicans have "doubled down" on the "culture war" with attacks on books and teachers and are not addressing the needs of Iowans. He released a short statement about the start of the session:

> Leading up to the start of the 2022 session, Iowans were led to believe that the Governor and Legislature would be focused on Governor Reynolds' Workforce Crisis. During a pre-session forum, the Governor herself acknowledged there is a workforce crisis. Speaker Grassley said there is a workforce crisis. Senate Majority Leader Jack Whitver said literally every industry in Iowa needs more workers. And Senate and House Democratic Leaders said we would laser focused on how to end the Reynolds workforce crisis. And then the session started . . . and the Republicans threw away their talking points about fixing their workforce crisis.

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SENATOR LYKAM IS RETIRING

Senator Lykam has released a statement announcing his retirement:

> After many months of consideration, I am announcing today that I will not seek re-election to the Iowa State Senate. For the past 22 years, I have had the honor and privilege of representing the people of Scott County in the Iowa House and Iowa Senate. Since being elected to the Legislature, I have been proud to be part of significant legislative efforts to improve the lives of Iowans, including:
>
> - Floor managing landmark legislation to crack down on puppy mills. I led the efforts on key reforms after receiving stories of malnourished dogs, dogs with severely matted hair because they weren't groomed, and dogs that were crippled or otherwise injured after being continually caged.
> - Serving on the original legislative committee that created the popular Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Fund. The innovative program has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in efforts to expand environmental and recreational opportunities in Iowa.
> - Supporting legislation to legalize riverboat gambling in Iowa during an economic downturn caused by the farm crisis. The legislation created thousands of new jobs and expanded recreational and cultural opportunities across the state.
> - Leading efforts to pass legislation to help law enforcement officials shut down illegal dog fighting rings. I pushed for the legislation after Quad-City area residents reported dog abductions and finding dog carcasses.
> - Supporting legislation that restricted access to pseudoephedrine, a key meth-making ingredient; increasing public awareness; and ensuring stronger enforcement. I also supported a law placing additional tracking requirements on sales of the substance.
>
> I want to thank the people of Scott County for giving me the opportunity to represent them in the Legislature. With their support, I have worked in a bi-partisan manner on key issues, reaching across party lines to pass good policy and putting politics on the sideline. It has been an honor to represent the citizens of Scott County."

Senator Lykam served one term in the House in the 1980's, and then served seven additional terms from 2003 to 2016. He won a special election to the Senate after the death of Senator Joe Seng. Lykam is in the middle of his second term, but after redistricting, had been paired with Senator Roby Smith in the new Senate 45. Lykam is the ranking member on the Senate Commerce Committee.

Smith announced in December that he will leave the Senate to run for State Treasurer against the Democratic incumbent, Michael Fitzgerald. Kerry Gruenhagen, a Walcott farmer, has announced that he will run for the Republican nomination.

Senate 41 includes part of Davenport, parts of Scott and Muscatine counties, and all of Cedar County. Representative Kaufmann currently holds the House seat in the Cedar and Muscatine portions of the county. Senate 45, the district currently held by Lykam is centered in Davenport and is strongly Democratic. The new district is split between Republicans and Democrats and is likely to be a priority race for both parties.

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TODAY IN THE LEGISLATURE

House Files: 10 (HF 2030 - HF 2039)
House Study Bills: none (last introduced HSB 539)

Resolutions INTRODUCED by the House: (1)
HJR 2001 RIGHT TO READ (Jacoby, 11 D's) (Judiciary)
Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting the Legislature from passing laws restricting the books available in K-12 and university classrooms and libraries.

Senate Files: none (last introduced SF 2048)
Senate Study Bills: 5 (SSB 3033 - SSB 3037)

HOUSE & SENATE AGENDA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022

7 AM-4 PM	*Iowa Physician Assistant Society Day on the Hill*	***Rotunda, West & South Wings***
7:30 AM-1:30 PM	*Firefighter's Chili Cook-off*	***Legislative Dining Room 15***
8 AM-5 PM	*Administrative Hearing*	***Wallace Auditorium***
10 AM	**HOUSE CONVENES**	***House Chamber***
	SENATE CONVENES	***Senate Chamber***
10:30 AM	**House Information Technology Committee** HSB 534 **CYBERSECURITY: Gobble** (C)	***Room 304***
	House Veterans Affairs Committee	***Room 102***
11 AM	**Senate Natural Resources Committee**	***Room 116***
1:30-5 PM	*Civil Air Patrol Iowa State Legislative Day*	***Rotunda, East & North Wings***
2 PM	**House Commerce Committee** SF 468 **IOWA COAL: Fisher** (C)	***Room 103***
	House Education Committee	***Room 102***
	Senate Ethics Committee	***Room 116***
3 PM	**House Judiciary Committee**	***Room 103***
	House Labor Committee	***Room 102***
	House Natural Resources Committee Presentation: Jeff Goerndt, DNR.	***Room 19***
5-7 PM	*Iowa Travel Industry Partner's Tourism Legislative Night*	***Wooly's 504 East Locust St.***
5-8 PM	*Iowa National Guard Officers Association Legislative Reception*	***Iowa Taproom 215 East 3rd St #100***

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SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022

9 AM	**House Judiciary Subcommittee** HSB 526 **WILLS: Hite** (C), **Mitchell**, Prichard	***House Lounge***
9:15 AM	**House Commerce Subcommittee** SF 496 **LOW WAGE NON-COMPETES: Westrich** (C), **Nordman**, McConkey	***House Lounge***
	House Judiciary Subcommittee HSB 527 **SCHOOL EMPLOYEES: Jones** (C), Hansen, **Klein**	***House Lounge***
9:30 AM	**House Judiciary Subcommittee** HSB 522 **HEARSAY EVIDENCE: Jones** (C), **Wheeler**, Wolfe	***House Lounge***
	House Local Government Subcommittee SF 384 **EMPLOYING DEPUTY ASSESSORS: Westrich** (C), Donahue, **Wheeler**	***House Lounge***
10:30 AM	**Senate Transportation Subcommittee** SSB 3001 **COSMETIC VEHICLE DAMAGE: Brown** (C), **Dickey**, J Smith	***Room 217***
11:30 AM	**House Human Resources Subcommittee** HSB 507 **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY: Jeneary** (C), **Boden**, Sunde	***Room 19***
	Senate State Government Subcommittee SSB 3006 **PHARMACY MATTERS: Reichman** (C), **Cournoyer**, Jochum	***Room G17***
NOON	**House Human Resources Subcommittee** HSB 502 **WELFARE VERIFICATION: Bergan** (C), Bennett, **Bradley**	***Room 19***
	House Judiciary Subcommittee HF 2014 **ASSISTED REPRODUCTION: Jones** (C), Anderson, **Wheeler**	***House Lounge***
	House Judiciary Subcommittee HSB 525 **CRIME VICTIM AMENDMENT: Holt** (C), Anderson, **Hite**	***Room 304***
	House Judiciary Subcommittee HSB 528 **SPOUSAL COMMUNICATIONS: Lohse** (C), **Osmundson**, Wessel-Kroeschell	***Room 304.1***
	House State Government Subcommittee HF 800 **DRIVING ATVS: Kaufmann** (C), Cohoon, **Mitchell**	***Room 103***
12:30 PM	**House Education Subcommittee** HF 2008 **AT-RISK FUNDING: Ingels** (C), R Smith, **Thompson**	***House Lounge***
	House Human Resources Subcommittee HSB 517 **CONCUSSION PROFESSIONALS: Bush** (C), **Bradley**, Mascher	***House Lounge***
	House Human Resources Subcommittee HSB 532 **PSYCHIATRIC RESIDENCIES: A Meyer** (C), **Andrews**, Brown-Powers	***House Lounge 2***
	House Judiciary Subcommittee HSB 523 **BAILABLE OFFENSES: Westrich** (C), **Jones**, Wolfe	***Room 304.1***
2 PM	**Senate State Government Subcommittee** SSB 3009 **ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE REPORTS: Johnson** (C), Giddens, **Goodwin**	***Room G17***

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SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS (CONTINUED)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022		
3 PM	Senate Education Subcommittee SF 168 NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL SERVICES: Cournoyer (C), Giddens, Johnson	*Room 217*
4 PM	House Education Subcommittee HSB 519 TEACH IOWA GRANTS: Dolecheck (C), Staed, Stone	*House Lounge*
	House Education Subcommittee HSB 521 TIF DIVISIONS: Hite (C), Gjerde, Ingels	*Room 102*
	House Human Resources Subcommittee HSB 505 SNAP ELIGIBILITY: Osmundson (C), Bradley, Sunde	*Room 304.1*
	Senate Local Government Subcommittee SF 563 DEMOLITION RESERVES: Klimesh (C), Quirmbach, Williams	*Room 217*

SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

LABOR & BUSINESS RELATIONS

SF 493	LABOR SUBCONTRACTORS	J Taylor (C), Rowley, T Taylor
SSB 1034	NEW RESIDENT HOMESTEAD CREDIT	Green (C), Driscoll, Jochum *(reassigned)*

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HOUSE FILES (HF 2030 - HF 2039)

HF 2030 LOCAL ENERGY CODES (Isenhart) (Commerce)
Allows local governments to adopt building codes with energy conservation requirements that are stricter than the state building code.

HF 2031 TELEHEALTH REIMBURSEMENTS (Fry) (Human Resources)
Requires certain health carriers to reimburse out-of-state MH professionals for telehealth services if the professional is licensed in Iowa and able to deliver appropriate services. Effective on enactment

HF 2032 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION (Isenhart) (Human Resources)
Establishes a Public Health Commission under the DPS to make annual reports and recommendations on improvements to the public health system.

HF 2033 MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENTS (Jacoby, 13 D's) (Human Resources)
Increases reimbursements for Medicaid providers by 15% as of July, 2023. Requires the DHS to seek any necessary approval.

HF 2034 COVID IMMUNITY PROOF (Bush) (Human Resources)
Requires an entity that requires proof of a COVID vaccination to accept proof of COVID immunity as confirmed by testing within the last three months as an alternative. Similar to SF 2030

HF 2035 UTILITY ACCESS (Sorenson) (Transportation)
Requires an agency in control of a road to give non-discriminatory access to an agency conduit to utilities for broadband deployment. Prohibits such agencies from requiring the placement within an agency-owned conduit as a condition for accessing the road.

HF 2036 COVID TESTING (Stone) (Judiciary)
Requires a business that requires COVID testing as a vaccination alternative to pay all the costs for testing, including paying the employee for time away from work. Prohibits requiring an employee to undergo testing outside of normal work hours. Effective on enactment.

HF 2037 SHARED OPERATIONAL FUNDING (Dolecheck) (Education)
Increases the supplemental weighting for schools that share operational superintendent management functions.

HF 2038 FOR-PROFIT COLLEGE TUITION GRANTS (Stone) (Education)
Moves provisions concerning certain for-profit private colleges regarding tuition grants into the definition of accredited private institution.

HF 2039 STATE COLLEGE GAMES (Ingels) (Human Resources)
Requires the state universities to schedule at least one game a year against each other in all of the NCAA sanctioned sports the schools offer. Requires games to take place at the home of school in a higher class. Exempts schools from complying due to current contractual requirements but deems contracts entered into after the effective date of the bill to be new contracts.

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SENATE STUDY BILLS (SSB 3033 – SSB 3037)

SSB 3033 BOTTLE BILL CHANGES III (Commerce) **Brown** (C), **Klimesh**, Quirmbach

Additions: Adds high alcohol beer and canned cocktails as beverages covered under the redemption law. **Fees:** Raises the handling fee for beverage containers paid by a distributor to 2 cents until 2032 and then lowers it to 1.5 cents. **Redemption**: Requires participating dealers to pay refunds in a reasonable period of time. Allows dealers to not be participating dealers and to refuse to take cans for refunds if the dealer is within fifteen miles of a redemption center and gives notice to the DNR. **UPC**: Requires cans to have a UPC code that meets requirements set by the DNR. **Centers**: Requires Redemption centers to register with the DNR but strikes DNR approval requirements. **Other:** Deems that any refund value or handling fee held by the distributor after required payments belongs at the distributor. Establishes civil penalties. Similar to HF 151 and HF 152.

SSB 3034 BROADBAND GRANTS (Commerce) **Koelker** (C), Quirmbach, **Williams**

Makes public utilities eligible to team with communications providers to apply for Empower Rural Iowa broadband grants.

SSB 3035 COVID HOSPITALS (Commerce) **Brown** (C), Bisignano, **Johnson**

Exempts a health care facility from the Certificate of Need process if the facility will be developed in a county where the hospital requires employees to be vaccinated against COVID.

SSB 3036 DISABLED VETERAN PLATES (Veterans Affairs) **Green** (C), Giddens, **Lofgren**

Allows Iowa veterans with a 50% service disability to receive one free set of regular or special license plates. Includes related provisions.

SSB 3037 COVID VACCINATION INCENTIVES (Commerce) **Brown** (C), **Johnson**, Petersen

Prohibits a health insurer or public employee health care plan from paying incentives to a provider for meeting COVID vaccination goals or imposing penalties on a provider for failing to meet those vaccination goals.

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