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[The Fourth Week](#)

Here are some highlights from the week:

[IDPH Legislative Package](#)

- IDPH has three bills for the 2014 session:
 - One bill pertains to the Iowa Health Information Network (IHIN) that is administered by the [IDPH Office of e-Health](#). The bill is proposing to expand eligibility for the query function service that the IHIN provides. The service is used to query participants (any entity that has signed a participation agreement with the Office of e-Health) in the IHIN for a patient's health information. Examples of when the service may be used include but are not limited to when the patient is unable to remember their full medical history or during an off-hour emergency. Each participant is vetted through a strict approval process before gaining access to the IHIN.

UPDATE: [HSB 526](#) the subcommittee of Representatives [Linda Miller](#) (chair), [Marti Anderson](#), and [Stan Gustafson](#) recommended passage to the full House [Human Resources Committee](#) on Thursday, February 6. The bill passed unanimously and will now head to the full House Chamber for floor debate. IDPH would like to thank all of the representatives for their time and consideration of this important piece of legislation, especially Representative Linda Miller for her continued stewardship. We would also like to thank our stakeholder partners for their continued support of the passage of this legislation, including but not limited to, UnityPoint Health, Mercy Health Network, Iowa Medicaid, the Iowa Hospital Association, the Family Planning Council of Iowa, and Xerox. We're making great progress!

The subcommittee of Senators [Herman Quirmbach](#) (chair), [Mary Jo Wilhelm](#), and [Nancy Boettger](#) held a meeting on [SSB 3042](#) on Thursday, January 30. This is the companion bill to HSB 526. The subcommittee would like more information on how well patient health information is protected by electronic health records in general and in the methods of their exchange as they relate to the IHIN query tool. IDPH will provide more information as it relates to the IHIN's privacy and security policies and processes.

- [SSB 3013](#) passed the [Senate Human Resources Committee](#) unanimously on Wednesday, January 29 without amendments. The new bill number is SF 2083 and it will now be eligible for debate on the Senate floor. The change that the Iowa Board of Dietetics (under the IDPH Bureau of Professional Licensure) is proposing is consistent with the change in name from the American Dietetic Association (ADA) to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND), and includes the reference to the name of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics credentialing agency, the Commission on Dietetic Registration. The bill is technical in nature.
- **UPDATE:** [HSB 528](#) is the House companion bill to the Board of Dietetics bill. The subcommittee of Representatives [Rob Bacon](#) (chair), [Marti Anderson](#), and [Kevin Koester](#) met on Thursday, February 6 and will recommend passage of this bill to the [House Human Resources Committee](#) and without amendments. A committee agenda for next week has not been sent as of this writing.
- [SSB 3014](#) is the IDPH Omnibus Bill and was introduced in the Senate on January 15 and was referred to the Senate Human Resources Committee. The subcommittee of Senators [Mary Jo Wilhelm](#) (chair), [Bill Dotzler](#), and [David Johnson](#) met on Thursday, January 23 and will recommend passage of the bill to the Senate Human Resources Committee. Amendments were introduced to the bill from outside stakeholders however it is not clear as of this writing what will be included in the subcommittee's recommendation.

- To understand how a bill moves through the legislative process, click [here](#).

Other Highlights

- **Presentations.** Gretchen Hageman, Chief for the Bureau of Family Health, presented to the [Health and Human Services \(HHS\) Joint Appropriations Subcommittee](#) on the IDPH [1st Five Program](#) on Tuesday, February 4. The [1st Five Program](#) received an increase in funding for FY 2014 to expand its coverage in current locations and to expand the program into unserved areas. The presentation was well-received by the legislators on the subcommittee, especially the Co-chairs Senator [Jack Hatch](#) and Representative [Dave Heaton](#). Kudos to Gretchen and her team that includes Rebecca Goldsmith and Marcus Miller-Johnson. Thank you for your stellar representation of the Iowa Department of Public Health!

IDPH Interim Director Gerd Clabaugh also appeared again in front of the HHS Subcommittee on Thursday, February 6. He provided an update on the new medical residency training program. This program is a priority of the Governor's and a new program in IDPH that received a \$2.0 million appropriation for in FY 2014. The Governor has recommended additional funding of \$1.0 million for FY 2015.

Subcommittees attended:

- [HF 2058](#) requires each state agency to establish a user-friendly fees database on an internet site. The subcommittee accepted the recommendation by the Governor's chief information officer, Bob von Wolffradt, to have one central database that each agency can utilize instead of creating 45 individual ones. This would be more cost effective and efficient while meeting the goal of increased transparency for the public.
- [SSB 3108](#) authorizes the paying of awards and prizes to participants in fantasy sports contests. The bill was passed out of the subcommittee and has been placed on the agenda for the [Senate State Government Committee](#) for February 10.
- [HSB 574](#) (companion to [SSB 3057](#)) is a bill that requires the licensure of polysomnographic technologists, sometimes referred to as sleep techs, under the purview of IDPH's Bureau of Professional Licensure. The sleep techs would be added to the Board of Respiratory Care to become the Board of Respiratory Care and Polysomnography. IDPH estimates that the legislation as currently written would require approximately \$29,000 of one-time General Funds to implement.
- [HSB 149](#) permits a licensed psychologist that meets specified criteria to prescribe psychotropic medication.
- [SF 2001](#) requires that the transferor of real property disclose whether the property has been used for the manufacture, use, storage, or sale of methamphetamine. Legislators on the subcommittee are gathering as much information from departments like IDPH, Public Safety, and the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy to understand the best way to get to the root of the bill's issue. That is to protect the public from any harmful effects of methamphetamine that may be lingering after a lab has been removed. It is unclear whether a bill will be passed this session.
- Anti-Bullying Bills. The Senate ([SSB 3149](#)) and the Governor ([HSB 525](#)) have each introduced bills that continue to address Iowans' concerns about bullying in schools. Advocates that attended the subcommittees were pleased that elected officials are working to address this important issue. The bills include many similarities and each side will work with diligently to reach a compromise.

Highlights for Next Week:

- **Information Sessions.** The IDPH Public Health Tracking Portal Team will be holding information and demonstration session on twice next week. The first opportunity will be on Tuesday, February 11 from 8:00-8:45am in the Capitol's Legislative Dining Room. The second will be a presentation to the House

Human Resources Committee on Wednesday, February 12 beginning at 4:00 in room 103, the former Supreme Court Chamber. We looking forward to promoting this initiative to legislators and their staff!

Other Information

- **Mark Your Calendar.** The funnel dates in each chamber have been moved up two weeks as part of the joint effort to end session early. First funnel is now scheduled for February 21 and the second funnel is now scheduled for March 14. To view the updated session timeline please click [here](#).
- The Iowa General Assembly website is a great source of legislative information. The address is www.legis.iowa.gov . Take a few minutes to check out the wealth of resources.

The Legislative Update is also posted on the IDPH website at http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/legislative_updates.asp . To subscribe to the IDPH Legislative Update, please send a blank email to join-IDPHLEGUPDATE@lists.ia.gov.