

IDPH Legislative Update
Iowa Department of Public Health
March 5, 2012

The Eighth Week

The following are some highlights from the eighth week of the 2012 Session. Less than halfway through!

IDPH Legislative Package Update

- **The IHIN Bills.** The department's e-Health/Iowa Health Information Network (IHIN) legislation passed out of the Human Resources Standing Committees in each chamber on February 6 and as a result, each study bill has been assigned a file number. HSB 561 is now [HF 2283](#) and SSB 3056 is now [SF 2166](#). The amendments that were adopted at the committee level are incorporated or "rolled up" into the original study bill language. HF 2283 has been referred to the [House Ways and Means Standing Committee](#). This is due to the process that the House chamber follows when proposed legislation includes details regarding fees.

SF 2166 was placed on the Senate calendar but was referred the [Ways and Means Committee](#) on Tuesday, February 28 for the same reasons as explained for the House chamber. A subcommittee of Senators [Bolkcom](#), [Feenstra](#), and [Jochum](#) was assigned the same day and a subcommittee meeting was held on Thursday, March 1. It was the quickest subcommittee I have experienced this session! IDPH provided information to the Senators ahead of time and they did not have any questions for us at the meeting. Senator Bolkcom indicated that it was his intent to place the bill on the agenda for the full committee meeting scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7.

A fiscal note was published by the [Legislative Services Agency](#) to discuss the fiscal components of the legislation. To read the fiscal note, click [here](#).

- **The Technical/Omnibus Bill.** [HSB 622](#), the bill that replaced the department's proposed legislation, was passed out of the House Human Resources Committee on February 22 with an amendment. The amendment does the following:
 - Removes Division I that adds the state registrar to the list of entities who can issue a burial transit permit. Instead, the state registrar will be added to [HF 2369](#) which has passed out of the House Local Government Committee. An amendment during floor discussion will provide for this addition.
 - Division II of [HSB 562](#) relating to radiological health was added back in with a few changes. The most relevant change removed a proposed simple misdemeanor charge for owners of tanning devices and facilities who commit egregious violations of regulations. The department is still permitted to apply civil penalties but they cannot exceed \$5,000. Once again, legislators were very interested in this subject and asked several questions. For more information about the IDPH Bureau of Radiological Health, please click [here](#).
 - When the department is applying for a grant of an amount over \$100,000 that will require a state match or maintenance of effort requirement, a new federal reporting requirement mandates notification to specified persons. They are the chairpersons and ranking members of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Legislative Services Agency, the legislative caucus staffs, and the Department of Management. On average the department has 17 grants per year that meet these criteria.
- To understand how a bill moves through the legislative process, click [here](#).
- **Other Committee Work.**
 - To see the agendas and minutes for Senate Human Resources, please click [here](#).

- To see the agendas and minutes for House Human Resources, please click [here](#).

Bill Highlights

- [SF 2154](#). A [Fiscal Note](#) was published by LSA for SF 2154 relating to the licensure of the practice of naturopathic medicine.
- [HF 2043](#). A [Fiscal Note](#) was published by LSA for HF 2043 relating to the implementation of federal statute, regulation, or policy by state administrative agencies.
- [SF 2247](#) relating to terminology changes in Iowa Code references to mental retardation passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 50-0 on February 28.
- [SF 2123](#) that was introduced by the [Iowa Board of Pharmacy](#) and makes changes to the controlled substance schedules passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 50-0 on February 27.
- [SF 2185](#) relating to the supervision of physician assistants passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 50-0 on February 28.
- [SF 2248](#) relating to the licensed professionals authorized to prescribe respiratory care services passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 50-0 on February 29. It is now in the House State Government Committee.
- [SF 2174](#) relating to the regulation of persons offering occupational therapy services passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 50-0 on February 28.
- [SF 2225](#) relating to child abuse by prohibiting retaliation for reporting, providing for implementation of reporting policies at postsecondary institutions, requiring review of training requirements passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 50-0 on February 29. IDPH is charged with convening the stakeholder interim workgroup that will review mandatory reporting training requirements and curricula.
- [SF 2243](#) that creates a licensed social worker loan repayment program and revolving fund passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 27-23 on February 29. It is now in the House Human Resources Committee.
- [SF 2220](#) relating to the licensing of schools of cosmetology arts and sciences and barber schools passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 50-0 on February 28. It is now in the House Education Committee and has been assigned a subcommittee.
- [SF 2245](#) that requires a study and report of the establishment of a dual diagnosis treatment program for posttraumatic stress at the Iowa Veterans Home passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 50-0 on February 29. It is now in the House Veterans Affairs Committee. The director of IDPH is included in the list of membership slots appointed to the workgroup established in this bill.
- [HF 2042](#) that requires job impact statements for administrative rules passed the House Chamber by a vote of 92-0 on January 25. It is now in the Senate Economic Growth/Rebuild Iowa Committee and has been assigned a subcommittee.
- [HF 2285](#) that relates to the definition of “hydronic” for purposes of the Iowa Plumber, Mechanical Professional, and Contractor Licensing Act passed the House Chamber by a vote of 98-0 on February 29. It is now in the Senate State Government Committee.

House Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill

- The Health and Human Services (HHS) appropriations bill provides general fund and other funds appropriations to IDPH, the Department of Human Services (DHS), the Department on Aging (IDA), and the Department of Veterans Affairs and Iowa Veterans Home. The [House Appropriations Standing Committee](#) voted the bill out on Monday, February 27. There was discussion from the committee members on the impact of the proposed budget to all of the departments but it centered on the significant reductions to the Department of Human Services (DHS). House Republicans maintained that their budget proposal is a starting point for negotiations with the Senate and the Governor and will not be the end result for the HHS appropriations bill.

HSB 661 has received a new file number and is now referred to as [HF 2435](#). There were no amendments to the bill by the committee therefore no changes have been made to the summary below. The LSA has published their [Notes on Bills and Amendments \(NOBA\)](#) that provides a section-by-section analysis of the bill for those of us who did not attend law school. It is an incredibly useful tool! To reiterate, summaries for HSB 661 are still relevant to HF 2435.

- IDPH's general fund budget was reduced by \$3.8 million total compared to the budget for FY 2012 and the governor's recommendations for FY 2013. This is a total reduction of 8.12%. Each division director will be compiling information in an effort to help legislators understand the impact of the reductions on the services to Iowans. IDPH would like to see all of the reductions restored to the Governor's recommendations for FY 2013.
- The reductions are delineated as follows and more details have been added:
 - Each budget unit, with the exception of Healthy Aging that provides for local public health nursing and home care aide services, received at least a general reduction for printing, postage, communications, information technology, and office supply savings. This is a total reduction of \$435,016 to the IDPH general fund budget. The reductions are required to be applied evenly to each program.
 - The \$2.8 million in general funds for the Division of Tobacco Use, Prevention, and Control have been eliminated.
 - The \$12,500 of one-time funding for the 2011 task force relating to epilepsy has been eliminated.
 - The funding for the [Prescription Drug Repository Program](#) has been reduced by \$29,937 for a total allocation of \$100,000.
 - The allocation to the Iowa Primary Care Association to administer the [Iowa Safety Net Collaborative Grant Program](#) has been reduced by \$62,580 for a total allocation of \$70,000.
 - The general funds for the programming relating to direct care workers has been eliminated. However, funding of \$149,000 will be provided to IDPH for the [Direct Care Worker Advisory Council](#) from the fines collected by DHS from nursing facilities. This represents status quo funding for the council. Funding that is passed through IDPH to the [Iowa Caregivers Association](#) for statewide training and conference subsidies has been eliminated.
 - Funding from the Health Care Transformation Account (HCTA) for the [Medical Home and Prevention and Chronic Care Management Advisory Council](#) and the [Health and Long-Term Care Access Advisory Council](#) of \$233,357 and \$100,000 respectively was eliminated.
 - Several areas of the IDPH budget are also impacted by contracts we hold with DHS. Reductions are summarized below:
 - There is funding from the medical contracts budget line item for DHS that provides funding for contracts with IDPH for the Early Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment ([EPSDT](#)) Program and Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) agencies outreach. Reductions to this funding are estimated to result in a 9.0% decrease of these contracts.

- Funding for [Hawk-i](#) outreach has also been eliminated in the amount of \$128,950. IDPH has held a contract for services and received at least \$64,745 of this funding.
 - The Iowa Health Information Network (IHIN) funding is estimated by DHS to be reduced by \$1.15 million (20.0%) due to reductions to the Medicaid budget. The Iowa Medicaid Enterprise ([IME](#)) is receiving \$9 for every \$1 that the state matches to drawn down funding for the IHIN project.
- To view the general funds budget spreadsheet prepared by the Legislative Services Agency, please click [here](#).
- To view the other funds budget spreadsheet prepared by the Legislative Services Agency, please click [here](#).

Other Information

- The IDPH 2011 Annual Report and Budget Summary has been published! This report provides audiences with general information about the many program areas that IDPH is involved in, how that work is funded, and the results that are achieved. To view the report, please click [here](#).
- The Iowa General Assembly website is a great source of legislative information. The address is www.legis.iowa.gov. It's easy to find your legislator, get information on committee members, view photos of legislators, and access bills. Please take some time to check it out.
- Did you know you can listen to the chamber floor debates? You can also watch the floor debates in the House chamber. Click [here](#) for more information. To view the daily debate calendars for each chamber click on the home page link in the paragraph above and then click on the "Tentative Senate Debate Calendar" or "Tentative House Debate Calendar" above the Senate and House floor action windows.

Information on the Legislative Update

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