

IDPH Legislative Update
Iowa Department of Public Health
February 20, 2012

The Sixth Week

The following are some highlights from the sixth week of the 2012 Session.

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 will now be incorporated or "rolled up" into the original study bill language. HF 2283 has been referred to the House Ways and Means Standing Committee and I have been told this is due to the process that the House chamber follows when proposed legislation discusses fees. SF 2166 has been placed on the Senate calendar and is now eligible for consideration by the full Senate chamber.
- **The Technical/Omnibus Bills.** The subcommittee of Representatives [Ron Jorgensen](#) (chair), [Kevin Koester](#), and [Cindy Winckler](#) has held two meetings to discuss [HSB 622](#), the new version of the department's bill. Each of the representatives signed the subcommittee report and recommended passage of the bill as amended. The following is included in the amendment:
 - Division I relates to the issuance of burial transit permits. The proposed requirement that a person must provide a completed death certificate in order to be issued a burial transit permit was removed. The addition of the State Registrar as an entity that may provide a burial transit permit is still included however the County Registrar will no longer be an option and will be removed from the list per the amendment.
 - 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 that commit egregious violations of regulations. The department is still permitted to apply civil penalties but they cannot exceed \$5,000.
 - A new federal reporting requirement mandates notification to 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 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. On average the department has 17 grants that meet these criteria.

The Senate has indicated it will work on the House version of this legislation. This means that they will not continue work on SSB 3085, and instead will either accept the House language or propose their own amendments to the House version of the bill. This is a common way to handle legislation.

- 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](#).

Health and Human Services Presentation

IDPH staff was invited to present information to the Joint Health and Human Services (HHS) Appropriations Subcommittee on Tuesday, February 14th. The theme for the day was the health care workforce in Iowa (or lack thereof). Michelle Holst presented on the Primary Care

Recruitment and Retention Endeavor ([PRIMECARRE](#)). The state and federal funding for this program provides grants to primary care medical, dental, and mental health practitioners for use in repayment of educational loans. It was authorized by the Legislature in 1994 to strengthen the primary health care infrastructure.

Erin Drinnin presented information on the Direct Care Professional Advisory Council and the federal Personal and Home Care Aide State Training (PHCAST) grant. Two council members joined her in discussing proposed legislation, [SSB 3078](#), and the goals of the council's work. For more information on this initiative please click [here](#).

- For information on the Joint Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee, including handouts from the presentations, please click [here](#).

Bill Subcommittees Attended

Subcommittees were held on the following bills and attended by IDPH staff:

- [HSB 585](#) relating to the sale of raw milk in Iowa.
- [HSB 549](#) relating to an electronic health records system in the state. This bill was not proposed by IDPH.
- [SSB 3114](#) relating to the licensing of [polysomnographic technologists](#).
- [SSB 3040](#) relating to the licensed professionals authorized to prescribe respiratory care services.
- [HF 2135](#) that expands the [newborn safe haven act](#) to infants one year of age or younger.
- [SSB 3149](#) that provides directives to IDPH relating to Alzheimer's disease.
- [HF 2257](#) relating to the procedures of governing boards and commissions and the grounds for licensee discipline.
- [HF 2195](#) relating to the issuance of a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth.

Bills on the Move

- [SF 2035](#) was passed out of the Senate Education Standing Committee with an amendment that directs IDPH to convene a stakeholder committee to review the training resources for mandatory reporters of child abuse. IDPH offered to convene this subcommittee due to the work that is already done in the department relating to this training. A new bill number that will incorporate the amendment should be assigned sometime this week.
- SSB 3022 relating to the licensure of the practice of naturopathic medicine was passed out of Senate State Government on February 7. It has received a new bill number [SF 2154](#).
- [SF 2120](#) relating to the practice of optometry has passed both chambers and will now require the signature of Governor Branstad before becoming law.

Mental Health Redesign

- The House and Senate each have three bills that they are holding multiple meetings on relating to the various components involved in the redesign of Iowa's mental health system. IDPH staff has been tracking the following bills:
 - [HSB 623](#) and [SSB 3137](#) relating to persons with mental health illnesses and substance-related disorders. IDPH would like to be involved in the workgroup that the Judicial Branch and the Department of Human Services (DHS) that is directed to study and make recommendations on the processes for involuntary commitment for persons with substance-related disorders.
 - [HSB 624](#) and [SSB 3136](#) that replaces the terms "mental retardation" and "mentally retarded" with the "intellectual disability" throughout the Iowa Code. A definition of "intellectual disability" is also provided.
 - [HSB 646](#) and [SSB 3152](#) require core services for publically funded mental health and disability services, provide for addressing other services, establish mental health and disability services regions, and provide for effective dates. HSB 646 provides for funding provisions in Division VII of the bill.

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

The Legislative Update is also posted on the IDPH website at 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.