

## The Twelfth Week

Here are some highlights from the past couple of weeks:

### IDPH Legislative Package

- The IDPH bill, [HF 392](#) was withdrawn and substituted for SF 202. One amendment ([H-1129](#)) was attached to the bill to amend the tobacco language in Division IV. This was agreed to by IDPH as a compromise. [SF 202](#) passed the House Chamber as amended by a vote of 94-2 on March 26. The bill will return to the Senate so the amended language can be approved by that chamber. Preliminary conversations with key Senators indicate that the amended language will be approved, The bill will then become enrolled and sent to the Governor for his consideration.
- To understand how a bill moves through the legislative process, click [here](#).

### Bill Highlights

#### **Mental Health**

- [SF 406](#): Mental Health, Judicial Workgroup Recommendations. Establishes an Office of Mental Health Advocate in the Department of Human Rights (DHR). Combines the application for involuntary commitment with treatment of persons with a substance-related disorder under the Iowa Code so an individual can fill out one application for an [Iowa Code chapter 125](#) or [229](#) commitment. Requires the Department of Human Services to conduct a study regarding the possible development of a hospital bed tracking system in order to most efficiently and effectively serve the needs of persons suffering from mental illness. This bill passed the Senate Chamber on March 25 by a vote of 48-0. To view the Fiscal Note published by the Legislative Services Agency please click [here](#). The [House Judiciary Committee](#) passed the bill out with one amendment ([H-1251](#)) on April 4. The next step for this legislation is floor debate in the House Chamber.
- [SF 415](#): This is the major mental health bill that focuses on the recommendations from the transition committee workgroup's report. To view the report, please click [here](#). Components that impact IDPH include membership in the Children's Cabinet starting on page 10, line 29 and the establishment of a center for child health innovation and excellence (formerly [HF 366](#)) starting on page 14, line 31. This bill has passed the [Senate Human Resources Committee](#) and was referred to the [Senate Appropriations Committee](#) due to the appropriations for the equalization payments to counties as they transition. As of this writing, a subcommittee of Senators [Hatch](#), [Bolkcom](#), [Ernst](#), [Ragan](#), and [Segebart](#) will hold a public subcommittee meeting on the bill Monday, April 8 at 2:00.
- [HSB 229](#): The House introduced a similar version of the Senate's mental health bill that includes the equalization appropriation and recommendations provided for in the transition committee workgroup's report. This bill includes the Children's Cabinet, but does not include establishment of a center for child health innovation and excellence. A subcommittee of Representatives [Heaton](#), [Koester](#), and [Heddens](#) held a public subcommittee meeting on the bill on Wednesday, April 3.

#### **Health Reform**

- [SF 296](#): Senate Medicaid Expansion Bill. This bill has a number of policy items in it directed at increasing access to health care services for low-income Iowans. This includes but is not limited to expansion of the IDPH [I-Smile](#) Program to adults that are specified as eligible in the bill. The Legislative Services Agency has published a Fiscal Note that provides a general summary of the provisions in the bill as well as an estimate of the total fiscal impact to the State of Iowa. To view the Fiscal Note, please click [here](#). This bill passed the Senate on March 25 by a vote of 26-23.
- SF 296 was passed out of the House Appropriations Standing Committee on April 4 with one amendment ([H-1253](#)). The amendment removed the Senate language from the bill and replaced it with legislative intent language. The expressed reasoning for the amendment during the committee meeting was that the House Republicans wanted to have the Governor's Healthy Iowa Plan

legislation so they can review all of the options that are on the table. The Governor's bill was released on April 4 as [HSB 232](#) and was referred to the House Appropriations Committee. To view additional documents related to the Governor's Healthy Iowa Plan please click [here](#) and [here](#)

## Other

- [SF 393](#): Relates to prenatal care including requiring critical congenital heart disease screening for newborns as part of the state's newborn screening panel. The reporting requirements for health care providers to report the results of the tests to IDPH is exempted until funding is available for the department to make the needed software adjustments to receive the data. This bill passed the Senate on March 25 by a vote of 49-0. The House Human Resources Committee passed the bill out on Wednesday, April 3. The next step for this bill is debate on the House floor.
- [HF 569](#): Requires licensure of professionals practicing addiction counseling or providing addiction prevention services by the [Iowa Board of Behavioral Science](#). This bill passed the House on March 27 by a vote of 95-0. The Senate Human Resources Committee passed the bill out on Thursday, April 4. The next step for this bill is debate on the Senate floor.

## [Sent to the Governor](#)

- [SF 427](#): Streamlines the licensing structure under the Iowa Board of Plumbing and Mechanical Systems. This bill passed the Senate on March 25 by a vote of 48-0. The bill passed the House Chamber on March 27 by a vote of 97-0. The final vote to accept the House amendments was taken by the Senate on April 1 and passed by a vote of 50-0.

## [Signed by the Governor](#)

- [SF 353](#): Permits licensed pharmacists to administer immunizations and vaccinations if they have been trained according to rules that will be adopted by the Iowa Board of Pharmacy. The bill specifies certain requirements for the licensed pharmacist relating to demographics and limits the types of vaccines and immunizations that can be administered. This bill passed the Senate on March 13 by a vote of 49-0 and passed the House on March 18 by a vote of 98-0. The Governor signed this bill into law on March 28.
- [HF 160](#): County Mental Health Supplemental Appropriations Bill. Appropriates \$11.6 million for FY 2013 from the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) Child Enrollment Contingency Fund to the Department of Human Services for the Mental Health and Disability Services Redesign Transition Fund. The Legislative Services Agency published a Notes on Bills and Amendments (NOBA) that provides more details. To view the NOBA click [here](#). The Governor signed this bill into law on March 28.
- [HF 307](#): Establishes the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Currently it is located as a division under the Department of Defense. This bill passed the House on March 13 by a vote of 100-0 and passed the Senate on March 26 by a vote of 48-0. The Governor signed this bill into law on April 5.
- [HF 486](#): A licensure bill that fixes language from the 2012 session for three professions that were added under the Board of Podiatry. The Governor also recommended funding of \$28,000 for FY 2014 for the needed software updates in order to begin licensing these professionals as soon as is possible. The Senate has also included the funding in their current budget proposal. This bill passed the House on March 20 by a vote of 97-0 and passed the Senate on March 25 by a vote of 49-0. The Governor signed this bill into law on April 5.
- [Senate File 203](#): An Act relating to mental health and disability services requirements involving the Department of Human Services and including effective date and retroactive applicability provisions. The Governor signed this bill into law on April 5.

- [Senate File 347](#): An Act relating to record checks of prospective and current health care employees and certain students, and including effective date and applicability provisions. The Governor signed this bill into law on April 5.

### [Appropriations Process](#)

- On Thursday, March 14, the Senate members of the Health and Human Services (HHS) Joint Appropriations Subcommittee passed their budget spreadsheet out. To view the spreadsheet, please click [here](#). The annual appropriations bill will begin in the Senate Chamber. The bill has not been introduced yet, but the numbers provide an indicator of what will be included in the bill once it is out.
- The HHS provides appropriations to IDPH, the Department of Human Services, the Department on Aging, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Iowa Veterans Home. For more information on the membership and work of this subcommittee, please click [here](#).

### [Other Information](#)

- Mark Your Calendar. To view the session timeline please click [here](#).
- The Iowa General Assembly website is a great source of legislative information. The address is [www.legis.iowa.gov](http://www.legis.iowa.gov). Finding your legislator, committee members, photos of legislators and bills is easy to locate. Please take some time to check it out.
- The Legislative Update is also posted on the IDPH website at [www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/legislative\\_updates.asp](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](mailto:join-IDPHLEGUPDATE@lists.ia.gov)