



Iowa Legislative Report

83rd Iowa General Assembly

IA Speech-Language-Hearing Assn

Week 2: January 19 - January 23, 2009

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The second week of the session was abbreviated by the Martin Luther King Holiday Monday, the Inauguration on Tuesday, and the funeral of former Senator Mary Lundby on Wednesday. Senator Lundby (a Republican legislator from Marion) was a person well respected on both sides of the isle. She served in both the House and the Senate and held leadership positions. She retired from the legislature after to run for County Supervisor, but lost a long battle with cancer. She was known for her independent positions on many issues and her keen campaign instincts. Both chambers honored her by gaveling down so people could attend her funeral on Wednesday in Cedar Rapids.

With that schedule, legislators still managed to get work done this week. Many committees and subcommittees were held and major emphasis was put on disaster recovery. One of the first bills to be moving this session is an initiative to appropriate \$50 plus million from the emergency fund to supplement federal bailout efforts in the areas hit hard by disasters this summer. Another bill would allow the localities hit by the disasters to implement an expedited local option sales tax. The tax could be imposed as early as April 1st. Clearly, the budget and disaster relief efforts will dominate discussion at the General Assembly this year.

Legislators are anxiously awaiting the Governor's budget and it is expected to be released late next week. Budget subcommittees met on Thursday to review the across the board reductions ordered by the Governor in December. In all likelihood, most of the major budget decisions will not be made until the Revenue Estimating Conference (REC) meets in March. Legislators are not ruling out additional across the board cuts, especially if the REC revises their December estimates downward. The REC will be estimating revenue for the **current fiscal year** that ends on June 30th and for the 2010 fiscal year that begins on July 1st. The Iowa Constitution requires a balanced budget so legislators may be faced with very difficult decisions this session.

The Governor must release his budget by the end of this month but is reportedly waiting for the latest revenue information and federal bailout figures prior to submitting his proposed budget. All indications are that the budget will be pared down with the only new programs focused on rebuilding areas hit by the summer disasters. This year is unique in that the resolution of many of those problems is dependent upon what action the federal government takes to resolve disaster and economic recovery issues.

Legislators are reluctant to increase taxes given the economic condition of the state and many programs will likely be scaled back or eliminated.

One positive note on the federal front is that it appears that the state is going to get an influx of federal funds that should help with the Medicaid shortfall. Providers who care for Iowans on Medicaid will be paid 4% less beginning March 1 under a proposal made public Friday by the Iowa Department of Human Services. However, it is hoped that the cut will not go into effect because officials believe a federal stimulus package will replace the money cut by the 1.5% across-the-board reduction in state spending. It is in effect a 4% cut because it is compressed in the last few months of the budget year ending June 30, 2009. However, if federal money is not approved, the cuts will be made.

Below are the bills we are following/working on for you. The bills are arranged as Senate Files, Senate Study bills, House files and then House Study Bills in descending order - the state has a new delivery system this year. They are "hotlinked" if you would like to view the entire bill.

Please email us back indicating the bills you would like deleted from this newsletter as our inclination is to over-send the first couple of weeks so we don't miss any bills.

Please take advantage of any opportunities to meet your legislators. All indications are that this will be a very challenging year and we have 27 new legislators. Most of the legislators are scheduling forums in communities in their districts and these are a great way to get to know your legislators. They pay close attention to who attends those forums and know that people who attend those forums are very likely to vote. Have a great weekend and please feel free to call with any questions.

[Senate File 26](#)

A bill for an act relating to hospital discounts to uninsured patients, and providing civil penalties.

Jan. 21 09 Introduced, referred to Human Resources. [S.J. 110](#).

Sponsored by Bolkcom and Hatch.

[Senate File 11](#)

A bill for an act relating to establishing a process for reimbursement of nonparticipating providers for eligible services provided to IowaCare program members.

Jan. 13 09 Introduced, referred to Human Resources. [S.J. 58](#).

Jan. 14 09 Subcommittee, Hatch, Bolkcom, and Johnson. [S.J. 83](#).

Sponsored by Johnson.

Senate Study Bill 1082

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act providing for a private cause of action for certain consumer fraud violations.01/22/09 Subcommittee:Kreiman,

Sodders, Kettering

LSB 1831SC [Senate Study Bill 1082](#)

Senate Study Bill 1072

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to health-related activities and regulation by the department of public health and making penalties applicable. 01/21/09 Subcommittee: Wilhelm, Schmitz, Johnson

LSB 1142DP [Senate Study Bill 1072](#)

LSB 1142DP [House Study Bill 50](#)

Senate Study Bill 1061

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to a state false claims Act, providing penalties, and providing an effective date and applicability provision. 01/16/09 Subcommittee: Jochum, Kreiman, Zaun

LSB 1346DP [Senate Study Bill 1061](#)

Senate Study Bill 1037

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to a private cause of action for certain consumer fraud violations. 01/14/09 Subcommittee: Kreiman, Sodders, Kettering

LSB 1307DP [Senate Study Bill 1037](#)

[House File 52](#)

A bill for an act relating to the coverage of specialized medical equipment under medical assistance home and community-based services waivers.

Jan. 22 09 Introduced, referred to Human Resources. [H.J. 126](#).

Sponsored by Struyk.

[House File 25](#)

A bill for an act relating to the provision of certain information for insureds regarding external review of health care coverage decisions.

Jan. 15 09 Introduced, referred to Commerce. [H.J. 82](#).

Jan. 22 09 Subcommittee, T. Olson, Kressig, and Sorenson. [H.J. 142](#).

Sponsored by Hunter.

[House File 16](#)

A bill for an act providing for a worker shortage loan forgiveness program.

Jan. 15 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [H.J. 81](#).

Jan. 22 09 Subcommittee, Kelley, Koester, and Steckman. [H.J. 141](#).

Sponsored by Hunter.

House Study Bill 50

Jan. 22 09 A study bill relating to health-related activities and regulation by the department of public health and making penalties applicable. 1-21-09 Subcommittee assigned, Thede, T. Olson, and Soderberg. H.J. 121.

LSB 1142DP [Senate Study Bill 1072](#)

LSB 1142DP [House Study Bill 50](#)

Education Bills

[Senate File 17](#)

A bill for an act relating to the compulsory school attendance age and providing effective dates.

Jan. 14 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [S.J. 82](#).

Jan. 15 09 Subcommittee, Quirnbach, Dvorsky, and McKinley. [S.J. 98](#).

Sponsored by Dandekar, Gronstal, Beall, Danielson, Hatch, Courtney, Kibbie, Appel,

[Senate File 9](#)

A bill for an act relating to the disposition of school property and providing an effective date.

Jan. 13 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [S.J. 58](#).

Jan. 14 09 Subcommittee, Wilhelm, Hamerlinck, and Heckroth. [S.J. 83](#).

Sponsored by Ragan.

[Senate File 8](#)

A bill for an act relating to transportation provided to children attending a preschool program administered by a community empowerment area.

Jan. 13 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [S.J. 58](#).

Jan. 14 09 Subcommittee, Appel, Feenstra, and Soddors. [S.J. 83](#).

Sponsored by Kettering.

[Senate File 6](#)

A bill for an act lowering the compulsory school attendance age and providing for properly related matters.

Jan. 13 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [S.J. 57](#).

Jan. 14 09 Subcommittee, Heckroth, McKinley, and Soddors. [S.J. 83](#).

Sponsored by Heckroth.

Senate Study Bill 1016

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to the establishment and

implementation of a statewide writing assessment for public school students in grades three, six, and ten. 01/13/09
Subcommittee:Schoenjahn, Schmitz,Johnson

LSB
1261XD [Senate Study Bill 1016](#)

LSB
1261XD [House Study Bill 24](#)

LSB
1261XD [House Study Bill 39](#)

Senate Study Bill 1015

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to certain reporting requirements or actions required of the department of education, school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and community colleges. 01/13/09
Subcommittee:Heckroth,Wilhelm,McKinley

LSB
1232XD [Senate Study Bill 1015](#)

LSB
1232XD [House Study Bill 26](#)

Senate Study Bill 1014

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act providing for the establishment of a school district innovation grant program.01/13/09
Subcommittee:Appel,Schoenjahn, Boettger

LSB
1299XD [Senate Study Bill 1014](#)

LSB
1299XD [House Study Bill 25](#)

Senate Study Bill 1013

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to assisting schools to recover from disaster by changing the approval method for transfers of emergency fund moneys, by modifying certain funding provisions to relate to disaster recovery, and by allowing area education agency boards greater authority to purchase and lease=purchase property. 01/13/09
Subcommittee:Heckroth,Sodders,Johnson

LSB
1254XD [Senate Study Bill 1013](#)

LSB
1254XD [House Study Bill 23](#)

Senate Study Bill 1012

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to the compulsory school attendance age and providing effective dates. 01/13/09

Subcommittee:Quirmbach, Dvorsky,McKinley

LSB
1224XD

[Senate Study Bill 1012](#)

LSB
1224XD

[House Study Bill 38](#)

Senate Study Bill 1011

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to the duties and operations of the department of education and local school boards. 01/13/09
Subcommittee: Schmitz,Kreiman,Boettger

LSB
1347XD

[Senate Study Bill 1011](#)

LSB
1347XD

[House Study Bill 22](#)

Senate Study Bill 1010

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act allowing school districts to count foreign exchange pupils in certified enrollment counts for budget and funding purposes.01/13/09
Subcommittee:Beall,Quirmbach,Hamerlinck

LSB
1255XD

[Senate Study Bill 1010](#)

LSB
1255XD

[House Study Bill 41](#)

Senate Study Bill 1009

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to the use of certain levy funds for school transportation and utility expenses. 01/13/09 Subcommittee: Dvorsky,Heckroth,Feenstra

LSB
1256XD

[Senate Study Bill 1009](#)

LSB
1256XD

[House Study Bill 40](#)

Senate Study Bill 1008

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to the duties and operations of library districts. 01/13/09 Subcommittee:Wilhelm,Appel,Hamerlinck

LSB
1590XD

[Senate Study Bill 1008](#)

LSB
1590XD

[House Study Bill 27](#)

Senate Study Bill 1004

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act creating an Iowa collaboration for youth

development council and state of Iowa youth advisory council in the department of human rights.01/13/09 Subcommittee:Hatch, Ragan,Boettger

LSB 1264DP [Senate Study Bill 1004](#)

LSB 1264DP [House Study Bill 8](#)

[House File 71](#)

A bill for an act authorizing the school budget review committee to provide transportation assistance to certain school districts and providing an appropriation.

Jan. 23 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [H.J. 149](#).

Sponsored by Heaton.

[House File 40](#)

A bill for an act relating to the compulsory school attendance age and providing effective dates.

Jan. 21 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [H.J. 112](#).

Jan. 22 09 Subcommittee, Heddens, Cownie, and Ford. [H.J. 142](#).

Sponsored by Heddens, Hunter, Abdul-Samad, Ford, Whitead, Wendt, Dolecheck, Gaskil

[House File 35](#)

A bill for an act requiring certain new school buses to be equipped with seat belts, requiring the use of such seat belts, and making a penalty applicable.

Jan. 16 09 Introduced, referred to Transportation. [H.J. 90](#).

Jan. 22 09 Subcommittee, Quirk, Abdul-Samad, and May. [H.J. 142](#).

Sponsored by Hunter.

[House File 31](#)

A bill for an act relating to textbooks and applicable computer hardware adopted for use by school districts and provided to public and accredited nonpublic school students.

Jan. 16 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [H.J. 90](#).

Sponsored by Lukan.

[House File 26](#)

A bill for an act relating to the minimum hours of instructional school time in a school year for grades one through twelve for school districts, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools, and providing an effective date.

Jan. 16 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [H.J. 89](#).

Jan. 22 09 Subcommittee, Wendt, Dolecheck, and Willems. [H.J. 142](#).

Sponsored by Tjepkes.

[House File 14](#)

A bill for an act repealing the Iowa English language reaffirmation Act.

Jan. 15 09 Introduced, referred to State Government. [H.J. 80](#).

Jan. 21 09 Subcommittee, Lensing, Isenhart, and Rants. [H.J. 119](#).

Sponsored by Hunter.

House Study Bill 41

Jan. 21 09 A study bill for allowing school districts to count foreign exchange pupils in certified enrollment counts for budget and funding purposes. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Heddens, Cownie, and Wendt. H.J. 109.

LSB
1255XD [Senate Study Bill 1010](#)

LSB
1255XD [House Study Bill 41](#)

House Study Bill 40

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the use of certain levy funds for school transportation and utility expenses. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Heddens, Dolecheck, and Mascher. H.J. 109.

LSB
1256XD [Senate Study Bill 1009](#)

LSB
1256XD [House Study Bill 40](#)

House Study Bill 39

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the establishment and implementation of a statewide writing assessment for public school students in grades three, six, and ten.

LSB
1261XD [Senate Study Bill 1016](#)

LSB
1261XD [House Study Bill 24](#)

LSB
1261XD [House Study Bill 39](#)

House Study Bill 38

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the compulsory school attendance age and providing effective dates. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Ford, Cownie, and Heddens. H.J. 109.

LSB
1224XD [Senate Study Bill 1012](#)

LSB
1224XD [House Study Bill 38](#)

House Study Bill 27

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the duties and operations of library districts. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Bukta, Schulte, and Thede. H.J. 109.

LSB
1590XD [Senate Study Bill 1008](#)

LSB
1590XD [House Study Bill 27](#)

House Study Bill 26

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to certain reporting requirements or actions required of the department of education, school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and community colleges. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Kelley, Ficken, and Sweeney. H.J. 109.

LSB
1232XD [Senate Study Bill 1015](#)

LSB
1232XD [House Study Bill 26](#)

House Study Bill 25

Jan. 21 09 A study bill for providing for the establishment of a school district innovation grant program. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Abdul-Samad, Ficken, and L. Miller. H.J. 109.

LSB
1299XD [Senate Study Bill 1014](#)

LSB
1299XD [House Study Bill 25](#)

House Study Bill 24

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the establishment and implementation of a statewide writing assessment for public school students in grades three, six, and ten. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Abdul-Samad, Ficken, and L. Miller. H.J. 109.

LSB
1261XD [Senate Study Bill 1016](#)

LSB
1261XD [House Study Bill 24](#)

LSB
1261XD [House Study Bill 39](#)

House Study Bill 23

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to assisting schools to recover from disaster by changing the approval method for transfers of emergency fund moneys, by modifying certain funding provisions to relate to disaster recovery, and by allowing area education agency boards greater authority to purchase and lease-purchase property. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Willems, Schulte, and Thede. H.J. 108.

LSB
1254XD [Senate Study Bill 1013](#)

LSB
1254XD [House Study Bill 23](#)

House Study Bill 22

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the duties and operations of the department of education and local school boards. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Cohoon, Dolecheck, and Steckman. H.J. 108.

LSB
1347XD [Senate Study Bill 1011](#)

LSB
1347XD [House Study Bill 22](#)

House Study Bill 4

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the disposition of school property and providing an effective date. 1-14-09 Subcommittee assigned, Mascher, Koester, and Palmer. H.J. 78.

LSB
1538HC [House Study Bill 4](#)

LSB 1538SS [Senate File 9](#)

[Senate File 9](#)

A bill for an act relating to the disposition of school property and providing an effective date.

Jan. 13 09 Introduced, referred to Education. [S.J. 58](#).

Jan. 14 09 Subcommittee, Wilhelm, Hamerlinck, and Heckroth. [S.J. 83](#).

Sponsored by Ragan.

House Study Bill 3

Jan. 14 09 A study bill relating to the funding of school district programs for returning dropouts and dropout prevention. 1-14-09 Subcommittee assigned, Heddens, Forristall, and Wendt. H.J. 78.

LSB
1535HC [House Study Bill 3](#)